

Activity Vibe is a monthly activity sheet available online at vibe.com.au for use in classrooms, homework centres and at home.

#### Issue 91

#### Years 7-8

Pick up a copy of this month's *Deadly Vibe* magazine, the special football edition, and complete the following activities.



★ Read the article on Willie Tonga and answer the following questions.

# Willie the whiz

This year saw the unearthing of a new league star - Willie Tonga.

 very so often, a player comes along who takes us all by surprise.
Sometimes they spring unnoticed from the lower grades, or arrive straight from the country leagues or metropolitan cups.

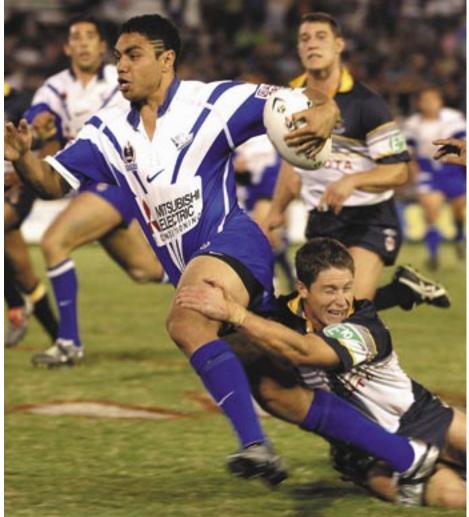
Some of them are amazingly talented players who have somehow slipped under the radar, and are simply waiting for the moment to announce their arrival in style.

This year, the revelation of the season has been the Bulldogs' try-scoring whiz, 22year-old Willie Tonga.

While Willie was already earmarked for a bright future, he still managed to creep up on the footballing public this year when his attacking flair and overall game took him from being an unknown commodity with the potential to be great, to one of the greatest young stars of the game.

After two seasons with Parramatta, Willie signed with the Bulldogs in 2004 and found a regular spot in the centres, where he played strongly all season. But it was against competition heavyweights, the Roosters, that Willie announced himself in grand style.

Everything fell into place that night as Willie ran in three tries and had a hand in three others. Willie's performance instantly cast him into contention for a State of Origin berth.



Not a bad effort for the quietly spoken 20-year-old from Cherbourg.

When Willie did eventually make his debut in the maroon jersey, no community was cheering louder than Cherbourg when he crossed for a try in Queensland's second-game victory. While the series didn't go Queensland's way, the brightest positive in defeat was the unearthing of a new superstar in Willie Tonga.

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## 🔆 COMPREHENSION

Commit Refieldstory				
★ Answer true (T) or false (F) to the following statements:				
Willie Tonga is 22 years old				
★ Where does Willie Tonga come from?				
★ Underline the correct answer.				
Which team does Willie Tonga play for?				
a) Roosters b) Parramatta c) Bulldogs d) Queensland Cowboys				
$\star$ In what match did Willie Tonga "announce himself in grand style" and how did he do this?				
$\star$ In your own words, describe Willie Tonga's debut match for Queensland in the State of Origin.				
🐥 ALPHABETICAL ORDER				
★ There are 26 letters in the alphabet and they are always arranged in the following order:				
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z				
It is important to know this order as the words in the dictionary are also arranged in this order.				
The words that begin with the letter 'a' appear on the first pages, followed by the words beginning with the letter 'b' and so on.				
If words begin with the same letter we must then look at the second letter. Eg: ball, burst, big in alphabetical order would be arranged as ball, big, burst, because a comes before 'i', and 'i' comes before 'u'.				
If the first two letters of a word are the same, we must then look at the third letter, and so on.				
★ Write these lists in alphabetical order.				
often, game, crossed				
brightest, future, cheering				
announced, attacking, amazingly				
unknown, under, unearthing				
commodity, competition, community				
strongly, style, stars				

## **HESAURUS**

#### A Thesaurus is an excellent way to expand your vocabulary and to understand how words are used in context.

Some words, when used too often, can damage your writing. A thesaurus is a great way to find different words to replace the ones you are using to make your writing more interesting for the reader.

There is also a great thesaurus on the internet. If you have access to the internet go to dictionary.com, and choose "thesaurus".

Happy word finding!

In the story about Willie Tonga, the writer has made the story sound more engaging by choosing the words he used.

For example, instead of simply saying "some of them are very talented players" the writer has said "some of them are amazingly talented players".

By replacing very with amazingly, the writer has made the piece of writing more exciting.

#### ★ Below is a list of words that are often used too often. Using a thesaurus, find another word with the same meaning.

enjoyable	 really	
nice	 terrible	
happy	 bad	
said	 interesting	

### WORD USAGE

★ Choose four of the words from the list above. Write a sentence about Willie Tonga using each word, and then underneath, write the same sentence using the new word that you have found in the thesaurus.

Eg: Some of them are very talented players. Some of them are amazingly talented players.



# COMMAS (,)

Commas are used to break sentences into reasonable lengths, to separate words in a list, to separate numbers and to separate adjectives in a list.

#### $\star$ Use commas in the following text. Check your work against the article.

This year the revelation of the season has been the Bulldogs' try-scoring whiz 22-year-old Willie Tonga.

After two seasons with Parramatta Willie signed with the Bulldogs in 2004 and found a regular spot in the centres where he played strongly all season. But it was against competition heavyweights the Roosters that Willie announced himself in grand style.

While the series didn't go Queensland's way the brightest positive in defeat was the unearthing of a new superstar in Willie Tonga.

In what way is the comma used in each of these passages?

# **WRITING**

★ Imagine that Willie Tonga had sent an e-mail to his best mate back in Cherbourg after the match that he played against the Roosters, when he ran three tries and had a hand in three others.

What do you think Willie would have mentioned about the game, how he felt and what the match meant to him?

Remember to use informal language, like you would in an e-mail.