CLASSROOM WORKSHEET

Australian F1 Champion Alan Jones Dies at 80

Sport · Nov 5, 2026 · 3 min read

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 12



Ben Sutherland from Crystal Palace, London, UK / Wikimedia Commons (CC BY 2.0)

1 Read

The number beside each paragraph helps you talk about it.

1 Alan Jones, who won the 1980 Formula 1 world championship, has died at the age of 80. He passed away on 5 November following a short illness.

2 Jones made his F1 debut in 1975 with the Hesketh team at the Spanish Grand Prix. He won his first race in 1977 at the Austrian Grand Prix while driving for Shadow.

3 He took 12 grands prix victories across his career. However, he is remembered as the last Australian to win the world title. He became the second Australian to achieve this, after Sir Jack Brabham.

4 In 1980, Jones won races in five countries — Argentina, France, Britain, Canada and the United States — to secure the championship with Williams. He first stopped competing after winning the final race at Caesars Palace in 1981.

5 Although he made brief returns to racing, his last race took place in 1986. He later served as a television commentator for Channel Nine from 1987 to 2002. He also appeared on Network 10 in the early 2010s.

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2 Key words

debut /ˈdeɪbjuː/ *noun*

the first time someone takes part in a particular type of activity or competition

Her debut on the stage was a huge success and the audience loved her.

championship /ˈtʃæmpiənʃɪp/ *noun*

a competition or series of competitions that decides the best player or team

The team trained all summer to prepare for the national championship.

illness /ˈɪlnəs/ *noun*

a period of being sick or not feeling well

She had to stay at home for a week because of a short illness.

victories /ˈvɪktəriz/ *noun*

successful endings in competitions or fights

The coach celebrated his team's victories in the tournament.

commentator /ˈkɒmənteɪtə/ *noun*

a person who speaks on television or radio to describe and explain a sports event

The commentator described every goal during the football match.

secure /sɪˈkjʊə/ *verb*

to make sure you get or keep something

She worked hard to secure a place at university.

3 Reading comprehension

EXERCISE 1 Understanding the News

3 points

Read the text and choose the correct answer for each question.

1 Which team was Alan Jones driving for when he won his first race?

(a) Hesketh
(b) Shadow
(c) Williams
(d) Channel Nine

2 Why is Alan Jones remembered as an important figure in Australian racing?

(a) He was the first Australian to drive in F1.
(b) He was the last Australian to win the world title.
(c) He won races in more countries than any other driver.
(d) He was the oldest champion in F1 history.

3 What did Alan Jones do after his racing career ended?

(a) He became a team manager.
(b) He opened a racing school.
(c) He worked as a television commentator.
(d) He became a journalist for Network 10.

EXERCISE 2 Answering Questions

Answer each question in a complete sentence using information from the text.

1 When and where did Alan Jones make his Formula 1 debut?

2 How many grands prix victories did Alan Jones have in his career, and which other Australian had won the world title before him?

3 Which teams or broadcasters are mentioned in connection with Alan Jones's career?

4 Vocabulary and grammar practice

EXERCISE 3 Past Tenses in the Story

4 points

Complete each sentence with the correct past tense form of the verb in brackets.

1 Alan Jones _____ (make) his F1 debut in 1975 with the Hesketh team.

2 In 1980, Jones _____ (win) races in five countries to secure the championship with Williams.

3 Although he _____ (make) brief returns to racing, his last race took place in 1986.

4 He later _____ (serve) as a television commentator for Channel Nine from 1987 to 2002.

EXERCISE 4 Match the Words

5 points

Match each word or phrase from the text to its definition below.

1 debut _____

2 championship _____

3 illness _____

4 victories _____

5 commentator _____

A a person who speaks on television or radio to describe a sports event

B a period of being sick or not feeling well

C a series of competitions that decides the best player or team

D successful endings in competitions or fights

E the first time someone takes part in a particular competition

Answer key

For the teacher

Keep this page for yourself and copy only the pages before it. Short-answer and writing tasks list one possible answer.

Exercise 1 Understanding the News

1. B. Shadow The text says: 'He won his first race in 1977 at the Austrian Grand Prix while driving for Shadow.'
2. B. He was the last Australian to win the world title. The text says: 'he is remembered as the last Australian to win the world title.'
3. C. He worked as a television commentator. The text says: 'He later served as a television commentator for Channel Nine from 1987 to 2002.'

Exercise 2 Answering Questions

1. Alan Jones made his Formula 1 debut in 1975 with the Hesketh team at the Spanish Grand Prix. The text clearly states his debut year, team, and race location.
2. Alan Jones had 12 grands prix victories across his career, and Sir Jack Brabham was the first Australian to win the world title before him. Both pieces of information come directly from the third paragraph.
3. His F1 teams were Hesketh, Shadow, and Williams. He worked for Channel Nine as a commentator and also appeared on Network 10. All names are stated in the text.

Exercise 3 Past Tenses in the Story

1. made This describes a finished event at a specific time in the past, so we use the past simple.
2. won We use the past simple for completed actions in a finished time period (1980).
3. made The past simple is used here because it refers to a completed period in his past career.
4. served This is a finished past period, so the past simple is correct.

Exercise 4 Match the Words

1. E. the first time someone takes part in a particular competition
2. C. a series of competitions that decides the best player or team
3. B. a period of being sick or not feeling well
4. D. successful endings in competitions or fights
5. A. a person who speaks on television or radio to describe a sports event