

MONDAY
Money

TUESDAY
Build the Change

WEDNESDAY
Sport

THURSDAY
Science

FRIDAY
Culture

THE DAY
Build a better world



NEWS DETECTIVES

TODAY'S BIG STORY

England chase Australia in bid for Ashes glory

Is cricket too complicated?
Fans will tune in today for another five-day epic match, as England hope to come back from their last nail-biting defeat.

Bazball faces its greatest test...
The second Ashes test match, to be precise.

After a narrow defeat to Australia in the first test, England captain Ben Stokes and head coach Brendon McCullum have faced sharp criticism of their **boisterous** style of play.

Dubbed Bazball after McCullum's old nickname, England's approach is to attack, moving away from cricket's traditional stress on defence.

In the first test, England made one highly **controversial** move.



Fallen soldiers: England will be hoping to bounce back from a defeat in the first test.

THE STORY SO FAR

The Ashes is a series of five-day cricket matches between England and Australia. The name is a joke about the death of English cricket following England's first loss in 1882.

They **declared** early on the first day at **398 for 8**.

Australia therefore had more time at **the crease**, and was able to inch past England's score. They won in the end by **two wickets**.

Asked about the loss, McCullum defended his strategy by saying that it

had been fun to watch.

"I thought it was a great test match and I'm sure everyone that watched all around the world, and everyone who was here at **Edgbaston** as well, absolutely loved it — and that's us included."

For some people, cricket, especially its five-day test version, can be hard to get into. England's **commitment** to being entertaining might help to change that. But doubters point out that an exciting match is less important than winning.

As the second test opens, England will be hoping to silence the doubters.

KEY WORDS

Boisterous:

Aggressive but playful

Controversial:

Dividing opinions

Declared:

Turning over so the other team bats

398-8 : Scoring 398 runs with eight batters out

The crease: Where the batter stands

Two wickets: Two batters not out after matching the other team's score

Edgbaston: The cricket stadium in Birmingham

Commitment: Dedication



YOU DECIDE

Is cricket too complicated?

YES. It takes five days to play a test. Cricket has so many rules that new fans are right to be put off.

NO. The Sistine Chapel is complicated. So are the works of Shakespeare. Sometimes complexity is needed to create beauty.



THE DETECTIVE ZONE

SPOT THE FAKE

One of these three news stories is fake.
Which one?

Restaurant used fake priest to hear workers' confessions ☐

Hundreds attend AI generated church service ☐

Pope threatens sinners with cricket bat ☐

Cricket tests last a few days but how lengthy was the longest cricket match?



- A) 10 days
- B) 6 days
- C) 8 days
- D) 14 days

TIME TO DESIGN!

Cricket might be complicated but you can make it simple. In this challenge you will design a comic explaining one important cricket rule of your choice.

Step one:

Think about your design! Try to explain the rule to yourself. Now, how could you illustrate it? How will your design simplify the rule?

Step two:

Create your design! Draw your comic. If you want, why not make your cricketers actual crickets? Find imaginative ways for your comic to engage its readers.



Talking point

Is it better to win the game or entertain the fans?

Amaze someone

Batting in cricket has only a few shots considered "orthodox". These include the cut, leg glance, hook, pull, and drive.

The Australian cricketer Donald Bradman scored an average of 99.94 runs every match, 40 runs higher than any other batsman.

THE EXTRA PAGE

McCullum 'validated by defeat'

Brendon McCullum believes that the first Ashes Test "validated" England's attacking method despite a two-wicket defeat to Australia that he likened to a heavyweight bout and expects his side to "go a little harder" in the second Test at Lord's next week.

England scored at 4.61 runs per over in the match and attacked Australia's bowlers from the very first ball, when Zak Crawley thumped Pat Cummins through the covers for four. But Australia got over the line on the final day using old-school methods, scoring at 3.20 runs per over across the five days and regularly posting defensive fields.

"I think we played our style, which is to try and take the game forward," McCullum, England's Test coach, said. "I thought Australia were happy playing their style as well, which ultimately led to success for them and I'm sure they'll continue with those tactics right throughout the series. I think it's set up to be quite a fascinating contest.

"Obviously you'd rather have won the game — that's just the nature of sport sometimes — but I thought the way that we played [...] validated our style of play as well. If we'd have got a little bit of the rub of the green then we might have been on the other side of it.

"I'm sure everyone that watched



Bazball: England's head coach Brendon McCullum has created a whole new way of playing.

all around the world, and everyone who was here at Edgbaston as well, absolutely loved it — and that's us included."

McCullum does not expect either team to make any significant changes to their respective approaches in the second Test at Lord's, which starts on 28 June. In fact, he suggested that, if anything, England could be more aggressive than at Edgbaston.

"Both teams have got a little bit of time to digest what's unfolded over the last five days and maybe slightly tweak a couple of things along the way," McCullum said. "But I'd expect that they'd carry on doing the same sort of playing [style] that they executed here,

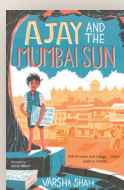
and we'll be doing the same.

"I guess I had a bit of an inkling that they might try and put some sweepers out, and it's hard to argue because they won the Test match, right? I'm sure they'll stick solid to that strategy all the way through, which I think's great because we'll go a little harder and they'll probably stick to their strategy.

"Everyone was left entertained and you're not always going to win — and we understand that. We want to keep getting up and throwing punches as a team, and I'm really proud of the way that the guys played." ■

This is an edited version of a story from
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Cricket question

D) 14 days

Spot the fake

Pope threatens sinners with cricket bat