History of Hockey

Read about how hockey started and then answer the questions below.

Games have been played on ice for hundreds of years. During the Middle Ages, people would play games on makeshift ice skates. However, the modern sport of ice hockey appeared during the 1800's. Both field hockey and lacrosse were used to create ice hockey. Lacrosse is a Native American game played with a stick, ball and net.

In the early 1800's, some Native Indians also played a game using field tools that were curved at the lower end. This was similar to the Irish game of hurling. This game turned into a game on ice called shinny or shinty. French explorers who watched the Indians' improvised ball-and-stick games attached the French word for the similarly shaped shepherd's crook, *hoquet*—hockey.

By the middle of the 1800's, ice hockey was being played in Canada's frozen harbors by British troops stationed there. The first use of a puck instead of a ball was recorded at Kingston, Ontario, in 1860.

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1.	What two sports were used to create ice hockey?
2.	When did Native Americans start using tools with curved ends?
3.	Where did the word hockey come from?
4.	Who played ice hockey in Canada's frozen harbors?
5.	When was it first recorded that a puck was used instead of a ball?