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| **RAFA NADAL** |
| Rafa Nadal was born on a Spanish island called Majorca on 3 June 1986 where his family lived. He started playing tennis when he was three.  Although he is right-handed, he changed to playing left-handed when he was eight years old. He also really liked football but stopped playing because he needed more time for school. His uncle Tony helped Rafa to become a professional.  When Rafa was 14, the Spanish tennis federation wanted Rafa to leave the island of Majorca and move to Barcelona. However, his family didn’t want this so the Spanish federation decided to reduce the financial help for Rafa’s career. This decision by the Spanish federation of tennis was very stupid and very typical.  Rafa tried to win Wimbledon twice before taking the title from his friend Roger Federer in 2008. They played the longest Wimbledon final ever and hero and former-champion John McEnroe called it the best tennis match in history.  In the same year, Rafa became the best player in the world. |
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