

# FANS IN THE UK

We interviewed fifteen football fans living or studying in the UK. We asked questions about football, living in the UK, the best way to learn English, the weather and much more.

**Question 6:** What do you like about the Premier League?

## Lesson plan

**Level** A2

**Aims** To express likes and dislikes and discuss the importance of different sports in the lives of young people.

## Language

### Skills & functions:

- a. Pre-listening warm up and listening for specific information.
- b. Talking about sports.

**Vocabulary:** Adjectives / Related words (synonyms); Sports

**Grammar:** Present simple; superlatives

**Focus:** Intercultural and geographical awareness

### Materials:

- a. DVD cue to Question 6: What do you like about the Premier League?
- b. Post-it notes (before you watch)
- c. Copies of students' worksheet (Activities 1 & 2)
- d. Copy of game cards (these will need to be cut up before the lesson)

### Stages & timing:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| a. Before you watch                            | (10 minutes)      |
| b. While you Watch: Activity 1                 | (20 minutes)      |
| c. While you Watch: Activity 2                 | (10 - 15 minutes) |
| d. Post-watching: Activity 3 Game              | (20-30 minutes)   |
| e. Post-watching: Activity 4 Follow-up writing | (20 minutes)      |
| f. Stimulus Question                           | (5 - 10 minutes)  |

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**Before you watch:** (10 minutes)

Hand out post-it-notes and ask students to write one adjective on their post-it-note to describe what they like about the Premier League.

Each student comes up to the board and sticks their note on the board.

How many students wrote the same adjective? Discuss other possible adjectives.

In pairs students have to write one sentence to describe the Premier League using at least two adjectives from the board:

i.e. The Premier League is exciting to watch because it is never boring and is very professional.

**Activity 1: Who said what?** (20 minutes)

**a) Watch** (Image off / Sound only)

Ask students to listen for, and write down the adjectives used by the fans to describe why they like the Premier League.

Ask a few students to read their sentences to the class.

**b) Watch again** (with sound)

Before watching you may want to pre-teach the meaning of the following words: *tournament, freedom, level, and reputation.*

Students watch the video and complete the matching activity.

Watch the video and complete the chart – Match the people to their words.

- |                |   |   |                     |
|----------------|---|---|---------------------|
| 1. Jorge       | • | • | a. it's really fast |
| 2. Valentini   | • | • | b. interesting      |
| 3. Juan Carlos | • | • | c. it's changed     |
| 4. Beatriz     | • | • | d. tough            |
| 5. Mansour     | • | • | e. one of the best  |
| 6. Shafai      | • | • | f. honest           |
| 7. Martin      | • | • | g. at the top       |

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**Answer Key**

- |                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Jorge       | e. one of the best  |
| 2. Valentini   | a. at the top       |
| 3. Juan Carlos | f. honest           |
| 4. Beatriz     | h. it's really fast |
| 5. Mansour     | b. interesting      |
| 6. Shafai      | d. tough            |
| 7. Martin      | c. it's changed     |

**Activity 2:** Find the synonym (a word or phrase that means the same). (10 – 15 minutes)

- |                     |   |   |                      |
|---------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| 1. exciting         | • | • | a. it's different    |
| 2. interesting      | • | • | b. the best          |
| 3. it's changed     | • | • | c. fair              |
| 4. tough            | • | • | d. outstanding       |
| 5. one of the best  | • | • | e. difficult         |
| 6. honest           | • | • | f. fascinating       |
| 7. at the top       | • | • | g. thrilling         |
| 8. it's really fast | • | • | h. 'it's very quick' |

**Answer Key:**

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. exciting         | g. thrilling        |
| 2. interesting      | f. fascinating      |
| 3. it's changed     | a. 'it's different' |
| 4. tough            | e. difficult        |
| 5. one of the best  | d. outstanding      |
| 6. honest           | c. fair             |
| 7. at the top       | b. the best         |
| 8. it's really fast | h. its very quick   |

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**Post Watching: (Total 50-60 minutes)**

Juan likes the players' honesty and Shafai likes how fast and tough the game is. What do you like about the Premier League?

Ask students:

What sport do you like?

What sport do you dislike?

Write up the list of sports mentioned; discuss what equipment you need to play each sport and whether it is an individual sport or a team sport.

**Activity 3: Class OR Group Game (20-30 minutes)**

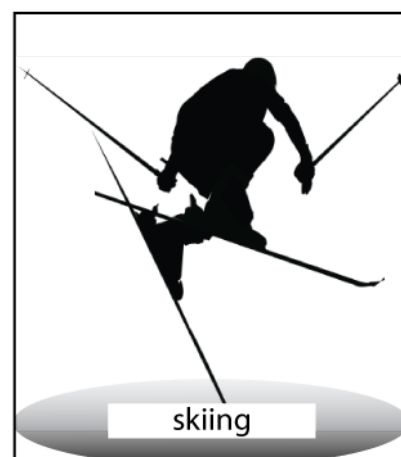
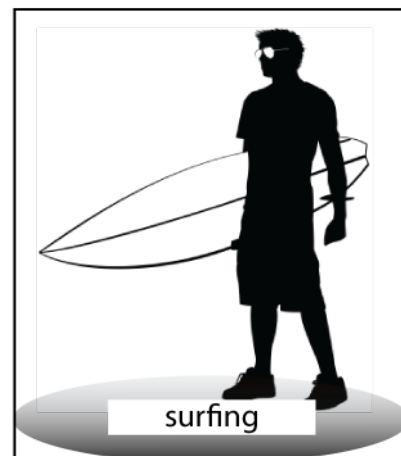
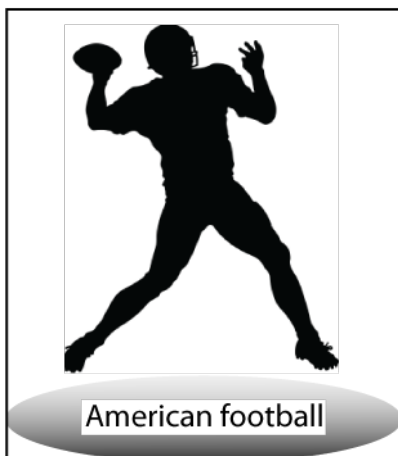
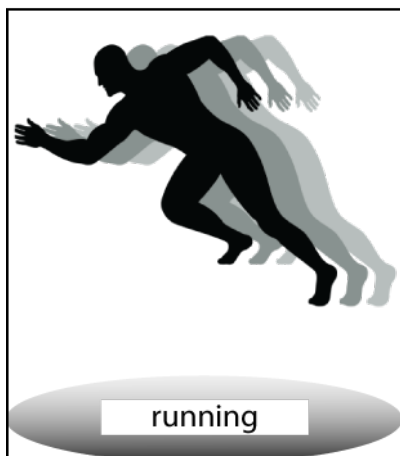
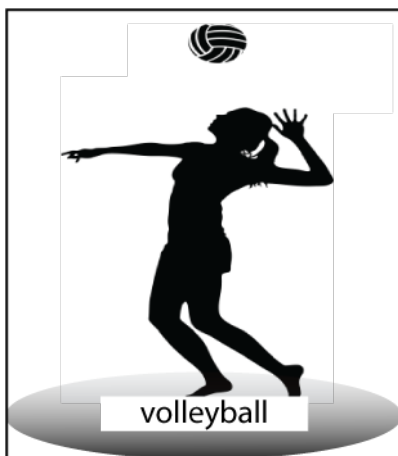
One student comes up to the front of the class and takes a card with the name and picture of a sport. The class has to ask questions, in the present simple, to find out which sport the student has. The student can only answer yes or no.

i.e., Do you play it indoors or outdoors? Do you play it in a team?

Do you need a ball? Do you need a pitch? Do you need a racquet? Do you need a bicycle?  
etc.

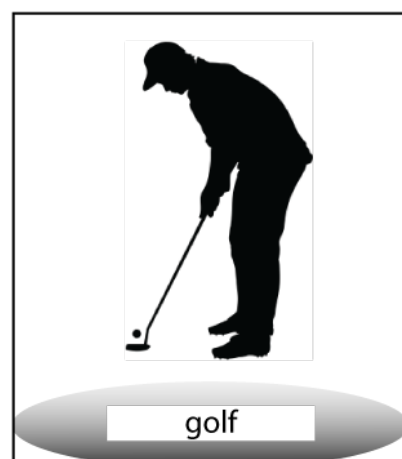
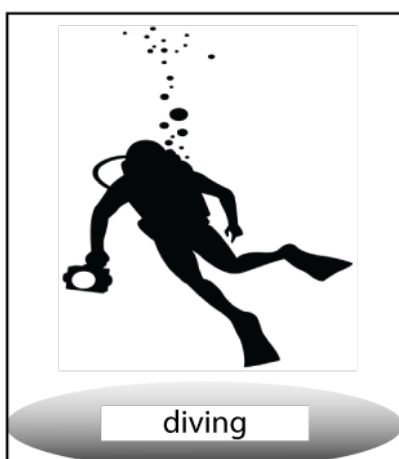
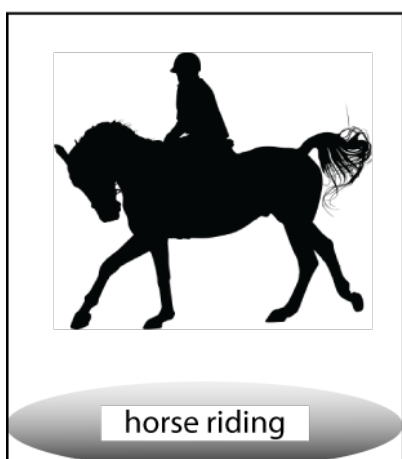
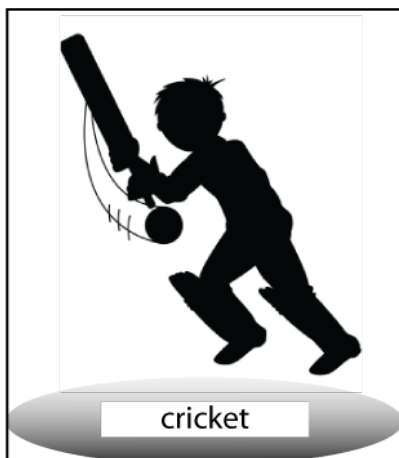
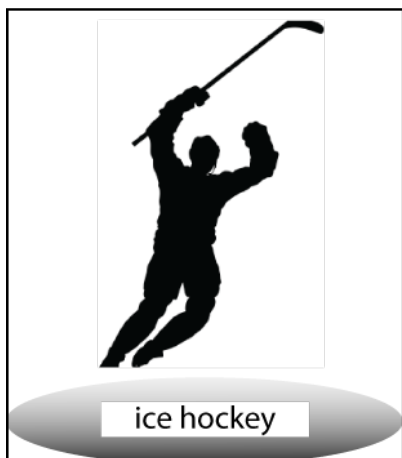
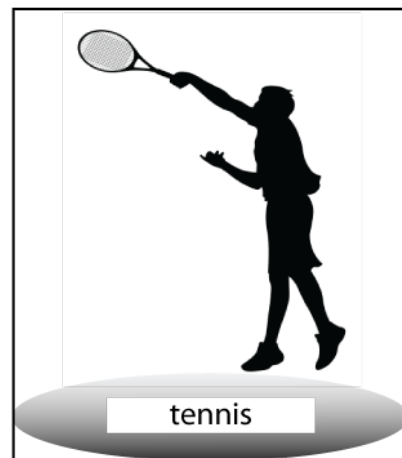
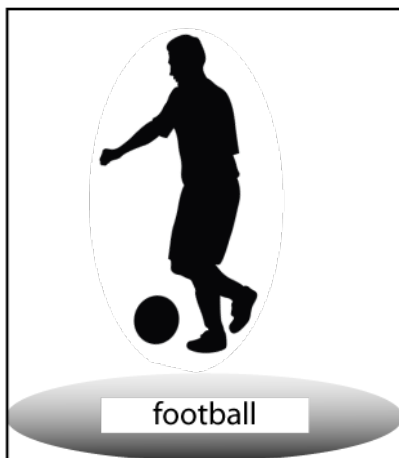
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**Game Cards**



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**Game Cards**



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**Activity 4: Follow-up writing (20 minutes)**

- a. Ask students to write a description of a football player or someone famous, using adjectives.
- b. Students need to swap their description with a partner and guess which famous person their partner is describing.

**Stimulus Question (5-10 minutes)**

Do you think people play enough sport today? Why/Why not?

**Transcript:**

Jorge	I think it's... I mean in general terms the English Premier League is just one of the best football tournaments in the world. I mean, you know the quality of play and the quality of the players are drawn from all over the world, even from Peru. It's just something that you don't get in many other countries.
Valentini	English football has always been at the top but with the new money, the players, probably the freedom of movement within the EU, it has helped take the level very high up.
Juan Carlos	Especially the players' attitude. They are really honest with the game and with the rules.
Beatriz	The style of football. I mean it's really fast. It's like, I think it's the best football of the leagues.
Mansour	More exciting and when you watch the match with the people in a pub or whatever there you feel it is interesting and very exciting to see this match.
Shafai	Active football and very fast. And tough. The Premier League is a tough competition and there is a lot of professional players from around the world in England, the best football players I mean. The teams of England have good reputation, outside England, inside England.
Martin	Premier League football. I would have to say it's changed a lot since a couple of years ago. The games are much faster now and the amount of international players who come to play in the Premier League- you can basically see the best footballers play in the Premier League.

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