

Transcript: Matchweek 10 - Smashed

Introduction

Jack: Hello my name's Jack and welcome to our weekly round-up section called 'This Week' on Premier Skills English.

Rich: Hi there. I'm Rich. We've got lots of interesting words and phrases to help you talk about football in English.

Jack: We want you to use and practise these phrases by interacting with Premier League fans from around the world in our comments section.

Rich: If you listen to us on Spotify or Apple Podcasts, you can leave your comments in the review section. We do read all the reviews and would love to hear from you.

Jack: You can find all our latest content on the Premier Skills English homepage or the Premier Skills-British Council Facebook page.

Rich: Let's start our round-up of Matchweek nine with our headlines.

Headlines

Jack: Foxes on the rampage.

Rich: Leicester City smashed Southampton 9-0 away from home to equal the biggest-ever win in Premier League history. The Foxes also broke the record for the biggest-ever away win in a top-flight match. It was also Southampton's biggest-ever defeat. The match saw hat-tricks from Ayoze Perez and Jamie Vardy.

Jack: Reds come from behind to beat Spurs.

Rich: Liverpool beat Tottenham 2-1 to stay at the top of the Premier League but had to come from a goal down after they were caught cold at the start of the match. Son Heung-Min hit the bar and Harry Kane headed the rebound home after only 48 seconds. However, a dominant Liverpool hit back through Jordan Henderson and Mohamed Salah got the winner from the spot.

Jack: United win on the road again.

Rich: Manchester United recorded their first Premier League away win since February with a 3-1 win against Norwich City. The margin of victory could have been greater but for a brilliant performance from Norwich keeper, Tim Krul. The Dutch international made a string of fine saves and saved two penalties. Scott McTominay, Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial got the goals for United. Onel Hernandez got the consolation for the Canaries and became the first Cuban to score in the Premier League.

Jack: A great weekend in the Premier League. There were also good wins for Brighton, Manchester City and Chelsea.

Rich: I have a question for everyone. Leicester equalled the Premier League record for the biggest win at the weekend. My question is: Which team's record did they equal and which team was it against?

Vocabulary Alert

Jack: In our vocabulary alert, we look at some football English that we used in the headlines.

Rich: Our six words and phrases this week are: to smash, a top-flight match, to be caught cold, a rebound, margin of victory and a string of fine saves.

Jack: Let's start with the phrases we used to talk about the Southampton - Leicester match. We said that Leicester smashed Southampton.

Rich: When one team smashes another it means they beat them very easily but it means a bit more than that. To smash something means to destroy something. Leicester smashed Southampton - they totally destroyed them.

Jack: It was an amazing performance from Leicester and I've heard quite a few similar phrases being used to describe the match. You could replace smashed in the sentence with crushed, demolished, obliterated or annihilated. They all have similar meanings.

Rich: Our next phrase is a top-flight match. The top-flight is the top division in a league. The professional English league has four divisions. The top division or top flight is the Premier League.

Jack: A top-flight match is any match played in the top division since the league was created 131 years ago.

Rich: Our next two phrases come from the Liverpool - Tottenham match. The first phrase is to be caught cold. This is an idiom which means to be surprised by an opponent. In football, it's often used to describe the first few minutes of a match.

Jack: Liverpool were caught cold at the beginning of the match when Spurs scored after 48 seconds. Liverpool were surprised by the attack and were probably not ready for it.

Rich: The next phrase is just a word. It's a rebound. We said that Son Heung-Min hit the bar and Harry Kane headed the rebound home.

Jack: A rebound happens when something bounces back from something. In football, a rebound is when the ball bounces back to a player from a post, bar or the goalkeeper. Harry Kane headed home the rebound.

Rich: Our final two phrases come from the Norwich City - Manchester United match. The first is the margin of victory. We said the margin of victory could have been greater but for a brilliant performance from the Norwich keeper.

Jack: The margin of victory is the difference in the scores between the winning team and the losing team. Manchester United beat Norwich 3-1. The margin of victory was two or two goals.

Rich: If they had scored two more, the margin of victory would have been four or four goals.

Jack: Our final phrase this week is a string of fine saves. We often hear this phrase when a goalkeeper has a good match.

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Vocabulary Alert (cont.)

- Rich:** The phrase a string of means a number of events that happen one after another. You can use it generally to say things like 'there have been a string of robberies in the village' or 'he's played for a string of clubs throughout his career'.
- Jack:** So, a string of fine saves means the goalkeeper made a lot of saves throughout the match.
- Rich:** OK, so there are our six words and phrases. Listen to this part of the podcast again if you are not sure how to use them.
- Jack:** The words and phrases are: to smash, a top-flight match, to be caught cold, a rebound, margin of victory and a string of fine saves.

Football Awards

- Rich:** Right, every week, we give out three Matchweek awards.
- Jack:** The awards are Player of the Week, Team of the Week and Goal of the Week.
- Rich:** In the comments section, you need to tell us if you agree with our choices.
- Jack:** Let's start with Player of the Week. It was a great full Premier League debut for Chelsea's Christian Pulisic who scored twice and Scott McTominay is starting to look the part for Manchester United.
- Rich:** But this weekend was all about goals and Leicester City. Jamie Vardy and Ayoze Perez both got hat-tricks against Southampton and we're going to go with Ayoze Perez who scored his first Premier League goals for the Foxes.
- Jack:** Team of the week is not a difficult one this week: Leicester City.
- Rich:** Finally, our Goal of the Week. We're going to leave this one to you. We're going to give you three options and you need to tell us which you think was best.
- Jack:** Goal number one: James Maddison for Leicester City against Southampton. A wonderful free-kick for Leicester's eighth goal of the match.
- Rich:** Goal number two: Christian Pulisic for Chelsea v Burnley. His first was a brilliant individual effort.
- Jack:** Goal number three: Jay Rodriguez for Burnley versus Chelsea. It was just a consolation but it was a fantastic long-range strike.
- Rich:** OK. Those are our three options. Did you see them? Which do you think was the best? Let us know your choice and if you agree with our other weekly awards in our comments section on the Premier Skills English website.

Prediction

- Jack:** Every week, Rich predicts the result of one Premier League match and we want you to make your prediction, too.
- Rich:** I went for a Liverpool win last week and got it right.
- Jack:** Yes, but the margin of victory was much closer than what you had predicted. Which match are you going to predict for matchweek eleven?
- Rich:** Right, Southampton lost 9-0 last weekend so I'm going to predict how they are going to react to that horrendous result. On Tuesday the Saints are back in action in the League Cup away at Manchester City - not a nice match to have after that kind of defeat. Then their next match in the Premier League is again away at Manchester City. Now, it might be that City get ten or eleven goals but I think strange things happen after a heavy defeat and I'm going to go for a 0-0 draw. I think they will just park the bus and shut up shop. They won't attack will just defend for their lives. Final score: Manchester City 0-0 Southampton.
- Jack:** Really? You have to be joking. I don't think City will score ten but I think they'll get five.
- Rich:** Let us know in the comments section how many goals you think City will score against Southampton.
- Jack:** Right, that's all we have time for. I hope you have enjoyed this football round-up. Join the discussion at the bottom of the page on the Premier Skills English website.
- Rich:** If you listen to us on Apple Podcasts, don't forget to leave us a review. We'd love to hear from you.
- Jack:** Bye for now and enjoy your football.