

HOMework

INTERMEDIATE - DAY 5

1. Reading:

When you hear the final whistle

One of the hardest things for any sportsperson to do is to know when to retire. Do you retire when you are at your physical 'peak' or do you wait until your body (or your coach) tells you that it's time to go? But even harder is finding the answer to the question 'What am I going to do with the rest of my life?'

_____ There's a high risk of depression and people often find adjusting to a new way of life difficult', says Ian Cockerill, a sports psychologist. 'For sportspeople, there's an extra trauma - the loss of status, the loss of recognition, and the loss of the glamour. That's the hardest part.' As Eddie Acaro, the US jockey says, 'When a jockey retires, he becomes just another little man.'



_____ Perhaps they just can't stand life without the 'high' of playing professional sport. **Michael Jordan**, the greatest basketball player of all time, retired three times. He retired once from the Chicago Bulls, made a successful comeback with the Bulls, then retired again. His second comeback with an inferior team ended in failure and he retired for ever at the age of 38 Jordan said, 'There will never be anything I do that will fulfil me as much as competing did.'



_____ **Muhammad Ali** needed the money, but his comeback fight, at the age of 39, against Trevor Berbick, was one of the saddest spectacles in modern sport. After losing to Berbick, Ali retired permanently. Three years later he developed Parkinson's disease.

_____ As Jimmy Greaves, an ex-England international footballer said, 'I think that a lot of players would prefer to be shot once their career is over.' Many of them spend their retirement in a continual battle against depression, alcohol, or drugs.



_____ **Franz Beckenbauer** is a classic example of a footballer who won everything with his club, Bayern Munich. After retiring he became a successful coach with Bayern and finally president of the club. John McEnroe, the infamous bad boy of tennis, is now a highly respected and highly paid TV commentator.

But sadly, for most sportspeople these cases are the exceptions.

- A** For some people the pain of saying goodbye never leaves them.
- B** Others can't resist the chance of one last 'pay day'.
- C** Some sportspeople go on playing too long.
- D** But for the lucky few, retirement can mean a successful new career.
- E** Retirement for people in general is traumatic.
- F** ~~One of the hardest things for any sportsperson to do is to know when to retire.~~

2. Writing:

Think of a sports team in your town/ country and answer these questions below

1. What's the name of the team?
2. What sport do they play?
3. Where do they play? (in a stadium, sports hall, etc..)
4. Who is ...?

The coach

The captain

The best player in the team

5. How many spectators watch their matches?
6. What happened in their last match?

3 PRONUNCIATION /ɔ:/ and /ɜ:/; word stress

a Circle the words with the /ɔ:/ sound.

shirt move score shorts shout
court knew sport hole ball

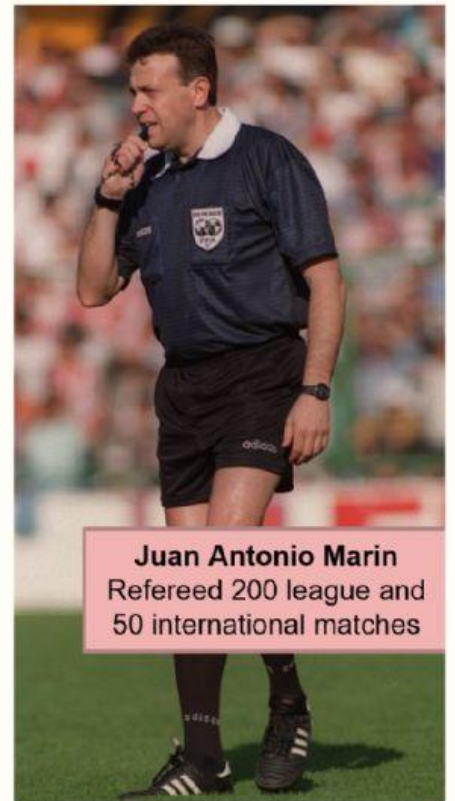
b Circle the words with the /ɜ:/ sound.

learn year world first sports girl
goal word worst course

4. Listening:

You're going to hear an interview with an ex-Champions League referee from Spain.
Listen and choose a, b, or c.

- 1 What was the most exciting match he ever refereed?
a His first professional match.
b He can't choose just one.
c Real Madrid against Barcelona.
- 2 Why does he mention Mauro Silva?
a Because he was the best player he ever saw.
b Because he was a great person.
c Because he was a very good footballer and a good person.
- 3 The worst experience he ever had as a referee was...
a when a player hit him during a match.
b when a woman with a child tried to attack him.
c when a 16-year-old boy attacked him
- 4 Why does he think there is more cheating in football today?
a Because football is big business.
b Because the referees are worse.
c Because footballers are better at cheating.
- 5 How does he say footballers cheat?
a They fall over when nobody has touched them.
b They accept money to lose matches.
c They touch the ball with their hands.
- 6 What's the most difficult thing for him about being a referee?
a Players who cheat.
b Making decisions.
c The rules are too complicated.
- 7 Does he think fair play still exists?
a Yes. b No. c He doesn't say.



Juan Antonio Marin
Refereed 200 league and
50 international matches

