

Reading

- 1 a) **RNE** Read the text. For statements 1-7, choose A, B, C or D to complete each statement correctly. Circle the answer you choose.

My parents always said I was born to be a sportsman. They said that even when I was in nappies, I wasn't happy unless I was kicking or throwing a ball. My first memory is of Dad and me playing football in our back garden. I recall

- 5 my mum sitting on the grass under the summer sun, cheering me on as I clumsily kicked a football into the net my dad was 'defending'. The sense of achievement I felt when I scored my first goal stuck with me, and my life has revolved around football ever since.
- 10 As I grew up, I dreamed of becoming a football player. In class, I tried to stay focused on my studies, I knew that few people became professional sportsmen and it was crucial to get a good education. But I devoted every spare second to my passion. At break times, I could be found in
- 15 the playground practising ball skills, and almost as soon as the bell rang at the end of the school day, I was playing five-a-side games at the local playing fields. I knew that if I wanted to become a success, I would have to put all my energy into the game.

- 20 My big break came when I was 18. Leicester City FC offered me a place in their squad. It was there that I learned the true value of teamwork. I played with a fantastic group of guys and we worked toward one common goal – to win! I learned that every person has their own individual talents,
- 25 and a great team brings these talents together.

We enjoyed great success at Leicester, and I was lucky enough to become one of the UK's top scorers! I was transferred to Everton and, while I was sad to leave my teammates, I was excited about working with new people

- 30 and making new friends. My time at Everton was an outstanding experience. While I was there, I scored 38 goals in 52 games. It wasn't long until I was on a new journey, this time across the sea to Spain to play for FC Barcelona. I was nervous at first, but it turned out that
- 35 there was no reason to panic.
- I felt great pride when I stepped out into the stadium and onto the pitch in Barcelona. Many footballers dream of playing for such a glorious team! It was a wonderful time for me. Not only did we beat our arch rivals, Real Madrid, but
- 40 we also fought our way through to the UEFA finals where we defeated Sampdoria and became European Champions. As you can imagine, the proudest I ever felt was when I played for my country, England, in the World Cup. The



tournament raises the level of competitiveness of every player. Not only do you have to be mentally prepared, you have to be at the peak of physical fitness. So, as you can imagine, it didn't help matters that I had to play the tournament with my left arm heavily strapped up! But I was determined not to let one injury stop me and played anyway! Because we were a strong team, we got to the quarter finals. I scored six goals during the competition and won the 'Golden Boot' award!

Football has taken me around the world, from England to Spain to Japan. I have become fluent in two other languages and have experienced other cultures. Since retiring, I have worked as a sports commentator and as a writer. I've even done some TV advertisements, but I'm not quite an Oscar winner! I've become quite the all-round sportsman – I've even played for Leicester Cricket Club. My career has provided me with many happy memories that I wouldn't change for the world. Plus, I've played many fun games of footy!

1 The writer's first memory was

- A throwing a ball with his father.
- B running around his garden in his nappy.
- C scoring his first goal.
- D sitting in the garden with his mother.

2 The writer's attitude towards his education was that

- A it was important to get a good education.
- B it was difficult concentrating on his studies.
- C it interfered with his football practice.
- D it was a waste of his time and energy.

3 At Leicester City FC the writer learned

- A that the only thing that matters is to win.
- B the importance of working as part of a team.
- C how to show people his individual talents.
- D what good players his team mates were.

4 When the writer was at Everton

- A he was sad and missed his old team mates.
- B he felt nervous when he was playing.
- C he found it to be a wonderful experience.
- D he would have preferred to play for Barcelona.

5 The writer uses the phrase 'glorious team' (line 38) to refer to

- A Real Madrid.
- B Barcelona.
- C Sampdoria.
- D England.

6 The two things required of a World Cup player are

- A competitiveness and physical fitness.
- B determination and physical fitness.
- C determination and mental fitness.
- D physical and mental fitness.

7 The impression the writer gives of his acting skills is that

- A he thinks they are good enough to win an Oscar.
- B he doesn't think they are very good.
- C he expects them to improve in the future.
- D he would like to develop them further.

b) Translate lines 10-25 from the text into Russian.

Vocabulary

2 Choose the correct word to complete the sentences. Then translate the sentences into Russian.

- 1 She felt a great of achievement when she qualified for the national championships.
A sensation B spirit C sense D feeling
- 2 Can you when you scored your first goal in a match?
A remind B memorise C consider D recall
- 3 The veteran figure skater said her whole life had around the ice rink.
A turned B revolved C evolved D circled
- 4 David Beckham's father of becoming a football star when he was young.
A wished B hoped C dreamed D fancied
- 5 A successful athlete needs to a lot of time to training.
A devote B concentrate C use D invest
- 6 It's not easy to a success in the world of sports.
A develop B become C turn D have
- 7 Professional footballers have to all their energy into their job.
A give B spend C provide D put
- 8 A good chess player knows how to stay on the game.
A alerted B focused C trained D attentive
- 9 Travelling gave her the opportunity to other cultures.
A learn B acquaint C experiment D experience
- 10 He has dedicated his whole life to rugby and he wouldn't it for the world.
A adjust B exchange C change D vary

3 Fill in: commentator, competitors, rival, referee, runner-up, spectators, trainer, umpire.

- 1 More than 30,000 took part in this year's London marathon.
- 2 The safety of should be the top priority at all sports events.
- 3 J. Norman was in three events and took home three silver medals.
- 4 Manchester United and Liverpool are two well-known teams.
- 5 Some tennis players tend to argue with the during matches.
- 6 The shouted into the microphone with joy as the whistle blew and England took the cup.
- 7 The was criticised for allowing an off-side goal during last night's match.
- 8 France's has promised to make major changes to the team for next week's match.

4 Fill in: break, playing, physical, true, score, sports, happy, win.

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| 1 | a goal | 5 | a record |
| 2 | an award | 6 | commentator |
| 3 | memories | 7 | value |
| 4 | fitness | 8 | fields |