



PLAY ON!

VOCABULARY

1. Work with a partner. Try to match as many of the words as possible to each category. Check that you understand them.

Team sports	
Individual sports	
Ball sports	
Water sports	
Winter sports	
Combat sports	
Indoor sports	

Athletics – baseball –
basketball – climbing –
cycling – diving –
football – judo –
gymnastics – horse-riding
horse-riding – judo –
karate – rugby –
sailing – skiing –
snowboarding – swimming
tennis – volleyball –
weightlifting

2. Complete these sentences with these words.

COURSE – COURT – GYM – PITCH – POOL – RINK – SLOPE – TRACK

- We go swimming and diving in a _____.
- We do gymnastics in a _____.
- You ski down a _____.
- You play tennis or basketball on a _____.
- You play football on a _____.
- You play ice hockey on a _____.
- You do athletics on a _____.
- You play golf on a _____.



3. Choose the correct alternative. In one sentence, both are correct.

- a. Spain **beat / won** England 2-0 (two-nil)
- b. Spain **beat / won** the match.
- c. England lost **to Spain / the match**.
- d. It was 1-1 (one all) so the teams **drew / lost**.
- e. Messi **scored / shot** a great goal yesterday.
- f. I don't know if Nadal will win the next **goal / point**.

4. Listen. Which sport in 1 is the subject of each conversation?

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____

READING

What is a superstition? What superstitions exist in your country?

1. Read the text and complete the table.

FOOTBALLER	COUNTRY	MOST IMPORTANT SUPERSTITION
1 Laurent Blanc		
2 Pelé		
3 Kolo Touré		
4 Pepe Reina		
5 Kim Little		

2. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Underline the part of the text where you find the answer.

- a. Neymar Jr. does something very unusual before each match.
- b. In the 1998 World Cup France had one superstition on the pitch and two superstitions off the pitch.
- c. Pelé started to play well again because he got his lucky shirt back.
- d. Pepe Reina's car always needs petrol just before a match.
- e. Eating the same food before each match is a silly superstition.
- f. Psychologists don't believe that superstition can help a player.

THE GAME BEFORE THE GAME

For the World Cup in Brazil there was focus in the media on 'the game before the game', the pre-match rituals of some of the world's top football players. Some of the rituals are quite normal things. For example, Neymar Jr. always speaks to his dad before each match. But some players have pre-match rituals that seem to be pure superstitions.



In the 1998 World Cup the French team had a strange habit. The defender Laurant Blanc kissed the goalkeeper's head at the start of every match! Sometimes other players joined in. But that wasn't the only superstition the team had. Every time the team got on the bus to go to a match all the players

always sat exactly in the same place. And in the changing room, just before the match, they always listened to the same song – *I will survive*. Irrational? Yes. But France did win the World Cup that year! Maybe it helped that 1998 was the year when France hosted the World Cup.

Perhaps one of the greatest footballers of all time was the Brazilian Edson Arantes do Nascimento, the player is better known as Pelé. Pelé is the player who has the record for scoring most goals in his career – an amazing 1,283 in 1,363 matches. After one great match, he gave away his favourite shirt to a fan. But then he started playing badly. He stopped scoring and started losing matches. Why? Pelé could think of only one reason – he needed the 'lucky' t-shirt which he had given away. He told a friend to find the fan and bring back the shirt. A week later the friend gave Pelé his shirt and he started to score again! Pelé's friend thought

it was better not to tell that he had never found where the fan lived and that the shirt was a completely different one!

There are players whose superstitions almost stop them from playing. Kolo Touré, from Ivory Coast, always has to be the last player to go out onto the pitch. In an important Champions League match, one of Touré's teammates was late. Touré refused to go onto the pitch and play until his teammate appeared. And, for some strange reason, Spanish goalkeeper Pepe Reina has to fill his car with petrol on his way to each match. He does this even when the tank is already almost full and there are other lots of cars in front of him! The night before a match he always eats the same cheese sandwich, too. His other superstitions include always touching the pitch, both goal posts and the crossbar after warming up at the start of each match.

So, when does a routine become a silly superstition, and why? Always eating the same food before a match is probably quite sensible. If you know that the food doesn't cause you any stomach problems, why change? But some routines are less logical.

The Scottish player Kim Little always puts her left sock on her right... every match! This type of routine is irrational, but psychologists believe that following a 'lucky' routine can make a player feel good, relaxed and in control. And not following the routine can have the opposite effect. So, maybe "the game before the game" is important after all.

GRAMMAR Defining and Non-defining Relative Clauses

1. Read the sentences. The words in blue are relative pronouns. Use them to complete the rules 1-5.

- a. He's the player **who** has the world record for scoring most goals.
- b. He needed the lucky shirt **which** he had given away.
- c. There are players **whose** superstitions almost stop them from playing.
- d. 1998 was the year **when** France hosted the World Cup.
- e. That wasn't the only superstition (**that**) the team had.
- f. Edson Arantes do Nascimento is the player **that** is better known as Pelé.
- g. He had never found the place **where** the fan lived.

- 1) We use _____ and _____ with people.
- 2) We use _____ and _____ with things.
- 3) We use _____ to talk about possessions.
- 4) We use _____ with places.
- 5) We use _____ with times.



Why do you think we call these defining relative clauses?

Why can we omit *that* in sentence e but not in sentence f?



2. Check the theory section and complete the exercises.

1) Complete the sentences with a relative pronoun. If you don't need a pronoun, put ----.

- a. The friends _____ I made last weekend live near my house.
- b. You're the teacher _____ classes I like the most.
- c. Jenny is the person _____ has helped me the most.
- d. Autumn is the time of year _____ the leaves fall from the trees.
- e. This is the town _____ I lived in when I was young.
- f. This is the country _____ football began.

LISTENING

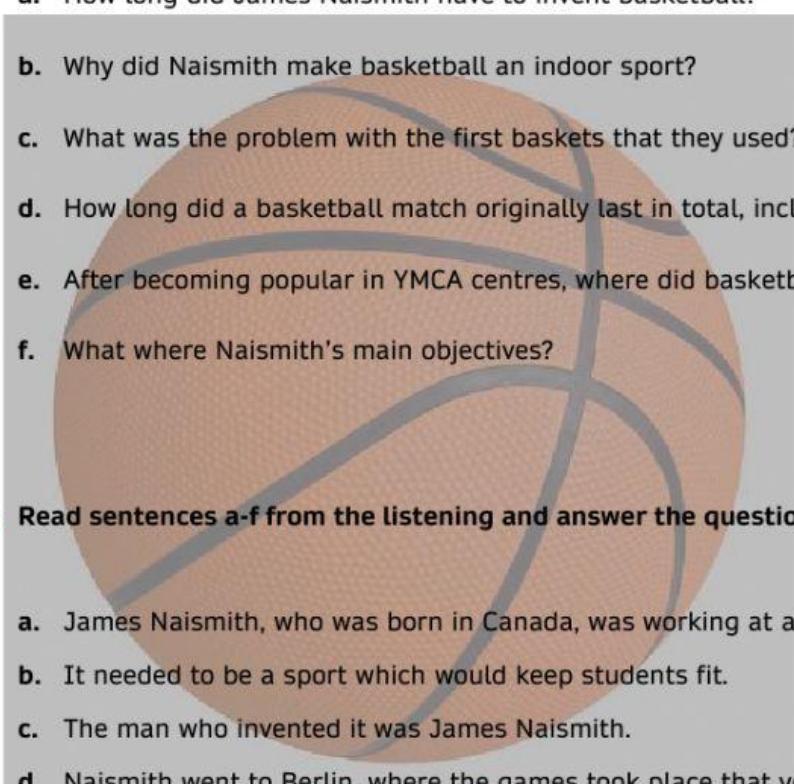
1. Read the sentences about the origin of basketball. Work with a partner. Do you think they are true (T) or false (F)? Then listen and check.

- a. Basketball was invented before 1900. T / F
- b. The inventor of basketball was born in the US. T / F
- c. The inventor of basketball was a PE teacher. T / F
- d. At first, basketball was an outdoor sport. T / F
- e. There were originally nine people in each basketball team. T / F
- f. The inventor of basketball wrote 15 rules for the game. T / F
- g. Basketball became an Olympic sport in 1936. T / F



2. Listen again and answer the questions.

- a. How long did James Naismith have to invent basketball?
- b. Why did Naismith make basketball an indoor sport?
- c. What was the problem with the first baskets that they used?
- d. How long did a basketball match originally last in total, including the break?
- e. After becoming popular in YMCA centres, where did basketball become popular?
- f. What were Naismith's main objectives?



3. Read sentences a-f from the listening and answer the questions.

- a. James Naismith, who was born in Canada, was working at a YMCA school.
- b. It needed to be a sport which would keep students fit.
- c. The man who invented it was James Naismith.
- d. Naismith went to Berlin, where the games took place that year.
- e. In 1936, when Naismith was 75 years old, basketball became part of the Olympic Games.
- f. Naismith was working in Massachusetts, which is really cold in the winter.

- 1) Which sentences do you think are **non-defining relative clauses** – giving extra, non-essential information?
- 2) Which clauses have **commas**, defining or non-defining relative clauses?
- 3) Can we omit the relative pronouns in sentences with non-defining relative clauses?
- 4) In sentence **f**, we cannot use *that* because of what comes just before the relative pronoun. What comes just before it?

4. Let's practice. Complete the sentences with non-defining relative clauses and the information given.

- a. Golf balls, _____, have a special surface so that they travel further. (they are usually white)
- b. Jenson Button, _____, failed his first driving test. (he is a Formula 1 world champion)
- c. Andy Murray, _____, has won the Wimbledon title. (his brother Jamie also plays tennis)
- d. In 2005, _____, the final was in Istanbul. (Liverpool won the Champions League)
- e. Zara Philips, _____, won a gold medal for horse-riding. (her grandmother is Queen Elizabeth)

5. Write two sentences for each of these. One must contain a defining relative clause and the other a non-defining relative clause.

FOOTBALL

ITALY

WATER

LAST YEAR

MESSI

Football is a sport which is popular all over the world.

Football, which I always play at the weekend, is my favourite sport.

We use **defining relative clauses** to give **essential** information about the person, thing, place or time in the first half of the sentence. The sentence does not usually make sense without the relative clause.

Germany is the country which won the World Cup.

Germany is the country.

We use **who** and **that** for people, **which** and **that** for things, **whose** for possessions, **where** for places, and **when** for times.

In defining relative clauses, **we can omit who, which, or that** when a pronoun or noun comes immediately after.

That's the sport that I play = That's the sport I play.

She's the tennis player that I like = She's the tennis player I like.

BUT

That's the sport that is popular

She's the tennis player that won the cup.

We use **non-defining relative clauses** to give **extra, non-essential** information about the person, thing, place, or time in the first half of the sentence. The commas work in a similar way to parentheses, showing that the information is not vital to the sentence.

We use **who** for people, **which** for things, **whose** for possessions, **where** for places, and **when** for times.

We **do not use that** in non-defining relative clauses.

In non-defining relative clauses we **cannot omit** the **relative pronoun**.

We **always use commas** in non-defining relative clauses.

They are not so common in conversation and can seem formal.

Manchester, which is in northwest England, is famous for its music.

Yesterday, when I played tennis, was a really warm day.

Jordan, whose team is top of the league, is a very good player.