

Listening comprehension

a Do you think being a football referee is a difficult job? Why (not)?

b You're going to listen to an interview with an ex-Champions League football referee from Spain. Listen to Part 1 and choose a, b, or c.

Part 1

Part 2

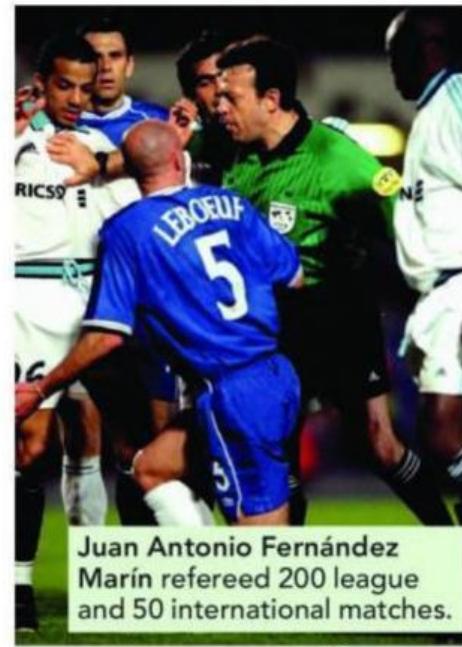

- 1 Why did he want to become a referee?
 - a His father was a referee.
 - b He liked sport, but wasn't good at it.
 - c He always liked the idea.
- 2 What was the most exciting match he ever refereed?
 - a His first professional match.
 - b He can't choose just one.
 - c Real Madrid against Barcelona.
- 3 The worst experience he ever had as a referee was when _____ attacked him.
 - a a player
 - b a woman
 - c a child
- 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 often cheat?
 - a They fall over when no one has touched them.
 - b They accept money to lose matches.
 - c They touch the ball with their hands.

c Listen to Part 2 and fill in the gaps

- 1 The most difficult thing for him about being a referee is to make the _____ during a match.
- 2 One of the reasons it's difficult is because football today is very _____.
- 3 Making correct decisions often depends on the referee's interpretation of the _____.
- 4 He thinks that players who cheat are the _____.
- 5 A study that was done on Leo Messi shows that he could run exceptionally fast _____.
- 6 He thinks Messi isn't a _____ footballer.

d Answer the questions

- 1 Do you agree with the referee when he says, 'I think fair play does exist – the players who cheat are the exceptions.' Is it also true of other sports?
- 2 Are there any sportspeople in your country who are well known for cheating? What kind of things do they do?
- 3 Do you think new technology makes a referee's job easier or more difficult? Why?
- 4 Would you like to be a sports referee (or umpire)? Why (not)?



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Marín refereed 200 league
and 50 international matches.



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