



LISTENING: YOU WILL WALK ALONE! BEŞIKTAŞ v LIVERPOOL

In order to do this task, you should follow these steps:

1. Listen to the podcast
2. Do the exercises below
3. Have a look at the vocabulary support and read the podcast transcript to help you understand the text

✓ **WORKSHEET**

1. **The person who speaks went to Istanbul to watch Beşiktaş versus Liverpool...**
 - a. on purpose
 - b. because he was on a business trip, although he had previously bought the tickets
 - c. because his friend Joe gave him two tickets as a present
2. **At the Ataturk Stadium, in Istanbul,...**
 - a. Liverpool won the Champions League final against AC Milan in 2005
 - b. Liverpool won Beşiktaş
 - c. Liverpool lost the Champions League final against AC Milan in 2005
3. **Getting to Atartuk Stadium...**
 - a. was very easy
 - b. was easy because there were some train links
 - c. was really difficult because there were no easy train links
4. **For the speaker, it was really hard to take their seats because...**
 - a. they couldn't find their seat numbers
 - b. they were already occupied
 - c. the seats were broken

5. During the match, the speaker and his friend felt...

- a. unsafe and uncomfortable
- b. safe and comfortable
- c. relaxed

✓ VOCABULARY SUPPORT

- **Build on:** add to; increase something
- **The Miracle of Istanbul:** this is now an accepted phrase referring to Liverpool's Champions League final win against AC Milan
- **Wasteland:** uncultivated land
- **Riot police:** police armed against public disorder
- **Packed:** crammed; squeezed
- **Deafening:** extremely loud
- **Boos:** loud noises showing displeasure
- **Hissing:** noise of disapproval from people
- **Flares:** bursts of light
- **The Black Eagles:** Beşiktaş' nickname
- **Drove ~ on:** encouraged; supported; pushed forward
- **On paper:** objectively; looking at each player versus his or her opponent

✓ PODCAST TRANSCRIPT

You will walk alone! Beşiktaş v Liverpool

I thought it would be a fantastic chance to watch Liverpool, the team I support, play Turkish team Beşiktaş while I was visiting Turkey on work last week. I bought tickets for the game last month and was really excited, anticipating a great atmosphere and hopefully watching Liverpool **build on** their one-nil first-leg lead and going through to the last 16 in the Europa League.

Getting to the stadium

The game was played at the Ataturk Stadium, also known as the Olymphyat Stati. This was the scene of Liverpool's famous 2005 come from behind victory against AC Milan – **the Miracle of Istanbul**.

Getting there was a real struggle. It is in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by **wasteland**. A nightmare for football fans, as there were no restaurants, no easy train links and no places to stay nearby. It is not Beşiktaş' home ground, which is near central Istanbul and it is being rebuilt at the moment.

Inside the Stadium

Getting inside was difficult. **Riot police** were turning people away from the gates, even though they had tickets. There was a feeling of desperation in the air as fans tried to force their way past the police and stewards. When myself and my friend, Joe, finally got into the ground, we soon found out that our seats were taken.

The Beşiktaş fans were **packed** into the ground, 70,000, and many had ignored their seats and were crammed into the main stands. People were standing on the seats and packed into the stairs between the rows of seats. It was a sea of Beşiktaş fans.

The Atmosphere

The crowd was incredible. The noise was **deafening**; the singing and chants non-stop. Beşiktaş colours, black and white, were everywhere and the atmosphere was very hostile. Every time a Liverpool player touched the ball, there was a chorus of **boos** and **hissing**. Every time the referee gave Liverpool a throw-in or a free kick, the same. When Beşiktaş had the ball, the fans gave their full support with songs, chants and **flares**.

Being a non-Beşiktaş fan in the middle of **the Black Eagles'** fans was a very intimidating experience. A banner said 'you will walk alone', a version of Liverpool's famous song, 'You'll never walk alone'. I certainly did feel alone.

The Result

Beşiktaş scored a fantastic goal to go level in the tie and, after extra time, won on penalties. For me, the result was the Beşiktaş fans were the winners. They **drove their team on** to victory in a game in which Liverpool, **on paper**, should have won.