



LISTENING

2017/ 2018 PREMIER LEAGUE KICK OFF

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

1. Listen to the podcast until minute 4'52.
2. Do the exercises below. There is only one correct answer for each question.
3. Have a look at the vocabulary support and read the podcast transcript to help you understand the text if necessary.

✓ WORKSHEET

1. In the 2017 UEFA Women's Championship, ...
 - a. Denmark won the trophy.
 - b. Holland beat Denmark 2-4.
 - c. Holland lost the match.
 - d. Holland beat Denmark 4-2.
2. The team that has put in a 100 million euro bid to get a player is...
 - a. Liverpool
 - b. Southampton
 - c. Barcelona
 - d. Brazil
3. The player who has been called 'the magician' is...
 - a. Virgil Van Dijk
 - b. Coutinho
 - c. Neymar
 - d. Keita
4. What has the problem been with Ousmane Dembélé's behaviour?
 - a. He decided not to attend his training session.
 - b. He arrived late to his training session.
 - c. He missed an important match.
 - d. He has been suspended for trying to force a move to another team.

✓ VOCABULARY SUPPORT

- **The beautiful game:** this is a synonym for football.
- **Community Shield:** it is a game which is played between the current holders of the Premier League and the FA Cup, and it is traditionally played the week before the English football season starts.
- **Penalty shootout:** it is used to decide which team will win. At first, each side takes five penalties but if there is no winner after these five spot kicks, then they keep taking penalties until a winner can be found.
- **Playmaker:** player whose main job is to organise and control a team's attacking play
- **To bid:** to make an offer for a player; to try and buy a player on a transfer
- **To down tools:** to refuse to work. It is the next step by a player who wants to leave a club. First, the hand in a transfer request and then he downs tools. It means the player refuses to train or to play, that is to say, to work for the club.

✓ PODCAST TRANSCRIPT

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DB: Hello everyone, you are listening to Languagecaster's football language podcast. Hiya, and welcome to our 11th season of podcasts, making us the oldest football podcast in the world. At least, that's what we think! Let us know if we're wrong! Anyway, you have reached the football language podcast for all those who love **the beautiful game**. My name's Damon. I'm based in Tokyo, cloudy and rainy here today, and down the line is Damian in London. Hiya Damian, how are things?

DF: I'm good thanks Damon. Here in London we had sunshine today after a couple of days of really miserable weather: heavy rain, grey skies and it was really cold. Of course, I'm looking forward to the new start to the 2017-18 Premier League season, which kicks off at the weekend. Right, now what have we got on today show?

Line up

DB: OK, well we will have a look at some of the football stories from the world of football at the beginning of the show in the good, the bad and the ugly section. We'll follow that with a quick quiz question. And then?

DF: And then we've got a couple of football phrases connected with transfers. Remember the transfer window is open until the end of August. Those phrases are 'to hand in a transfer request' and 'to down tools'. And I'm also looking forward to starting our predictions competition this weekend, and so we'll be taking a look at three of the 10 games taking place in the Premier League.

DB: That's right, we have five titles each, don't we?, so the 2017/18 season could be a decider! Can we also give our overall predictions for the season; Champions and relegated teams?

DF: Oh go on then!

DF: Yes, you are listening to languagecaster.com and that was in French. Remember if you come to our site, languagecaster.com, the podcast is accompanied by a transcript and while you're on the site, why don't you subscribe so you don't miss a show? We'd love to hear from you too; especially if you have any predictions, a question about football language or maybe you want to send us a 'you are listening to languagecaster.com' audio in your language! Right, Damon, what was good from the world of football this week?

Good

DB: It was very good for Holland, as their women's team lifted the European Championship trophy by beating Denmark convincingly 4-2 in the final. Well done! Now, their previous best finish was as semi-finalists, back in 2009. Good too for Arsenal, yes, Damian, who lifted the **Community Shield** after beating Chelsea in a **penalty shootout**. Did you realise, Damian, that they used the ABBA style of penalty shootout for this game?

DF: Yes, I noticed that. There was some negativity from some of the pundits on British TV about this system but I think it is a fair one.

DB: What about bad?

Bad

DF: Well, it's looking bad for Liverpool in the transfer market as, Neymar's record-breaking move to Paris, which we mentioned last week, has prompted Barcelona to put in a 100 million euro bid for the Reds' **playmaker** Coutinho. Liverpool also had to back away from a **bid** for Southampton's defender Virgil Van Dijk and are also finding it hard in their chase for RB Leipzig's midfielder, Keita. If they lose the Brazilian, whose fans have dubbed 'the magician', and fail to get their high profile targets, it will be a big setback for your team, Damon.

DB: Yes, I've got all my fingers crossed that Coutinho stays for one more season and Southampton allow Van Dijk to join us. Then, I'll be a happy man. How about ugly?

DF: Well, as a Spurs fan, I thought it was a bit ugly about Danny Rose's outburst yesterday, but how about Ousmane Dembélé of Dortmund skipping practice after Barcelona put in a transfer bid? The German side rejected the bid, but weren't too happy with their star player's behaviour. They suspended the player for missing training and he will be absent from Dortmund's DFB Pokal Cup game this weekend. It's never nice to see players **downing tools** like this as they angle for a move, that's trying to force a move to another team. Not very nice.

DB: Indeed