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## **Level 5**

# **Spanish football suspended indefinitely**

**10th May, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150510-la-liga-5.html>

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**Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150510-la-liga-5.html>

Spanish football is in shock over the suspension of all games in the country from May 16. The final, championship-deciding rounds of matches in La Liga may not go ahead. This is because of a dispute between the Spanish football federation and TV companies over TV rights. The suspension could affect 600,000 football players and 30,000 matches. It has come at a bad time for La Liga as Barcelona lead rivals Real Madrid by just two points, with three games left. The Spanish Cup final is also under threat. Officials say there is still time for all parties to settle their disagreement.

The dispute is over a new law from the Spanish government that makes all teams bargain together over TV rights. Currently, the country's top two teams are allowed to make their own deals with TV companies. This means nearly half of all TV money goes to Barcelona and Real Madrid. The Spanish federation said the government lacked respect for interfering in football. It complained it was not consulted on the proposed new TV rights law. In another twist, the players' union has threatened to strike for being excluded from the talks.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/sport/0/football/32619740>  
[http://www.eurosport.com/football/liga/2014-2015/reports-spanish-domestic-football-suspends-end-of-season-matches\\_sto4715138/story.shtml](http://www.eurosport.com/football/liga/2014-2015/reports-spanish-domestic-football-suspends-end-of-season-matches_sto4715138/story.shtml)  
<http://www.90min.com/posts/2135982-spanish-football-suspended-indefinitely-from-16th-may-after-dispute-with-government>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150510-la-liga-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                        |                             |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. championship-deciding               | a. by just two points       |
| 2. matches in La Liga may              | b. is still time            |
| 3. The suspension could affect         | c. rounds                   |
| 4. It has come                         | d. 600,000 football players |
| 5. Barcelona lead rivals Real Madrid   | e. disagreement             |
| 6. The Spanish Cup final is also under | f. at a bad time            |
| 7. Officials say there                 | g. threat                   |
| 8. settle their                        | h. not go ahead             |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The dispute is                    | a. TV rights              |
| 2. bargain together over             | b. of all TV money        |
| 3. allowed to make                   | c. over a new law         |
| 4. nearly half                       | d. the talks              |
| 5. the government lacked             | e. proposed new TV rights |
| 6. it was not consulted on the       | f. to strike              |
| 7. the players' union has threatened | g. respect                |
| 8. excluded from                     | h. their own deals        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150510-la-liga-5.html>

Spanish football (1) \_\_\_\_\_ suspension of all games in the country from May 16. The final, championship-deciding (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in La Liga may not go ahead. This is because of a dispute between the Spanish football federation and TV companies over TV rights. The suspension (3) \_\_\_\_\_ football players and 30,000 matches. It has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ for La Liga as Barcelona lead rivals Real Madrid (5) \_\_\_\_\_, with three games left. The Spanish Cup final is also under threat. Officials say there is still time for all parties (6) \_\_\_\_\_ disagreement.

The dispute is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from the Spanish government that makes all teams bargain together (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Currently, the country's top two teams are allowed to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ deals with TV companies. This means nearly half of all TV money goes to Barcelona and Real Madrid. The Spanish (10) \_\_\_\_\_ government lacked respect for interfering in football. It complained (11) \_\_\_\_\_ on the proposed new TV rights law. In another twist, the players' union has threatened to strike for being (12) \_\_\_\_\_ talks.

# FOOTBALL SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150510-la-liga-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about football in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

*Spanish football suspended indefinitely – 10th May, 2015*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

