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Level 3 – 22nd April, 2021

Football fan fury over European Super League

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

The plan created by Europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seems to be falling apart less than 48 hours after it was launched. A group of 12 of the richest football teams in Europe announced they would take part in the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created fury among fans, players, managers, Premier League teams and even the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William. They all said the new league would destroy football. They said it was created by greedy club owners. There has been so much anger that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City are already preparing to withdraw from the ESL due a backlash from fans.

Six of England's richest teams agreed to participate in the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy also signed up. No teams from Germany and France are involved, making the ESL less European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so fan power is bigger in Germany than in England. The UK government said it will take "whatever action is necessary," including legal options, to stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would take legal action to expel the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing bodies FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could be banned from the World Cup.

*** At the time of uploading this lesson, nine of the 12 teams have withdrawn from the ESL.**

Sources: <https://www.espn.com/soccer/manchester-united/story/4365066/man-united-man-city-players-voice-super-league-concerns-to-clubs-sources>
<https://sports.yahoo.com/super-league-faces-potential-legal-215850700.html>
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2021/apr/19/european-super-league-government-fa-and-uefa-unite-to-denounce-plans>

WARM-UPS

1. FOOTBALL / SOCCER: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about football / soccer. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

plan / football / clubs / league / fury / fans / greedy / owners / withdraw / backlash / teams / participate / European / fan power / legal action / necessary / bodies / players

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. THE BEST GAME: Students A **strongly** believe football is the best game in the world; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. COMPETITIONS: What do you know about these competitions? What are the good and bad things about them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	Good Things	Bad Things
Premier League			
Tour de France			
Formula 1			
Olympics			
Wimbledon tennis			
Sumo basho			

5. TEAM: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "team". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SPORTS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best sports at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Football
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Skiing
- Sailing
- Marathon
- Rugby
- Basketball

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. falling apart | a. Leave a place or situation. |
| 2. launched | b. Started. |
| 3. fury | c. Completely break; put an end to. |
| 4. destroy | d. Breaking up. |
| 5. greedy | e. A strong, angry and negative reaction to something by a large number of people. |
| 6. withdraw | f. Big, big anger. |
| 7. backlash | g. Having a huge and selfish desire for money, cakes, power, etc. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8. participate | h. About the law. |
| 9. involved | i. A person who has a strong interest in or love of a person or thing. |
| 10. fan | j. Force someone to leave a place, especially a school or a country. |
| 11. legal | k. Join in; take part. |
| 12. option | l. Of a situation or event - include something as a necessary part or result. |
| 13. expel | m. Officially or legally stopped. |
| 14. banned | n. A thing that is or may be chosen or selected. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. It took European clubs 48 hours to think of the European Super League. **T / F**
- b. The European Super League once had 12 of Europe's richest clubs in it. **T / F**
- c. The UK's Prime Minister strongly supported the European Super League. **T / F**
- d. People said greedy club owners created the European Super League. **T / F**
- e. Six teams from England initially joined the European Super League. **T / F**
- f. No teams from France and Germany joined the European Super League. **T / F**
- g. The UK government said it would not take legal action against the ESL. **T / F**
- h. Players from the ESL would have played in the FIFA World Cup. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. plan | a. included |
| 2. falling apart | b. ruin |
| 3. fury | c. breaking up |
| 4. destroy | d. because of |
| 5. due to | e. organizations |
| 6. participate | f. supporters |
| 7. involved | g. scheme |
| 8. fans | h. throw out |
| 9. expel | i. anger |
| 10. bodies | j. join |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. create a breakaway | a. could be banned |
| 2. falling apart less than | b. a backlash from fans |
| 3. This created fury | c. is necessary |
| 4. created by greedy | d. 48 hours after |
| 5. withdraw from the ESL due to | e. by fans |
| 6. Six of England's richest teams agreed | f. among fans |
| 7. teams are 51-per-cent owned | g. super league |
| 8. it will take whatever action | h. action |
| 9. they would take legal | i. club owners |
| 10. players who played in the ESL | j. to participate |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

The plan created by Europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seems to be (1) _____ apart less than 48 hours after it was launched. A group of 12 of the (2) _____ football teams in Europe announced they would take (3) _____ in the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created fury among fans, (4) _____, managers, Premier League teams and even the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William. They all said the new league would (5) _____ football. They said it was created by (6) _____ club owners. There has been so much anger that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City are already preparing to (7) _____ from the ESL due a (8) _____ from fans.

richest
withdraw
players
backlash
part
greedy
falling
destroy

Six of England's richest teams agreed to (9) _____ in the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy also (10) _____ up. No teams from Germany and France are involved, making the ESL (11) _____ European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so (12) _____ power is bigger in Germany than in England. The UK government said it will take "(13) _____ action is necessary," including legal options, to stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would take legal (14) _____ to expel the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing (15) _____ FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could be (16) _____ from the World Cup.

signed
whatever
banned
less
fan
bodies
participate
action

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

- 1) The plan created by Europe's top football clubs to create a _____
 - a. breakaway superb league
 - b. breakaway supra league
 - c. breakaway super league
 - d. breakaway supper league
- 2) seems to be falling apart less than 48 hours after _____
 - a. it was lunched
 - b. it was launched
 - c. it was ranched
 - d. it was lashed
- 3) They all said the new league would _____
 - a. destroys football
 - b. destroyed football
 - c. destroying football
 - d. destroy football
- 4) They said it was created by _____
 - a. glee tea club owners
 - b. greed the club owners
 - c. greedy club owners
 - d. greedily club owners
- 5) preparing to withdraw from the ESL due to a _____
 - a. backlash from flans
 - b. backlash from fens
 - c. backlash from fans
 - d. backlash from fonts
- 6) Six of England's richest teams _____
 - a. agrees to participate
 - b. age greed to participate
 - c. a greed to participate
 - d. agreed to participate
- 7) Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy _____
 - a. also singed up
 - b. also sinned up
 - c. also signed up
 - d. also sighed up
- 8) In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so fan _____
 - a. bower is bigger
 - b. power is bigger
 - c. blower is bigger
 - d. bowel is bigger
- 9) Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would _____
 - a. take legal action
 - b. stake legal action
 - c. mistake legal action
 - d. task legal action
- 10) FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL _____
 - a. could being banned
 - b. could be banned
 - c. could been banned
 - d. could bee banned

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

The plan created by Europe's top football clubs (1) _____ breakaway super league seems to be (2) _____ than 48 hours after it was launched. A group of 12 of the richest football teams in Europe announced they would (3) _____ the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created (4) _____, players, managers, Premier League teams and even the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William. They all said the new league (5) _____. They said it was created by greedy club owners. There has been so much anger that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City are already preparing (6) _____ the ESL due a backlash from fans.

Six of England's richest teams agreed (7) _____ the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy (8) _____. No teams from Germany and France are involved, making the ESL less European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, (9) _____ is bigger in Germany than in England. The UK government said it will take "whatever action is necessary," including (10) _____ stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would (11) _____ to expel the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing bodies FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could (12) _____ the World Cup.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

1. How long did it take the European Super League to fall apart?
2. How many teams launched the European Super League (ESL)?
3. When was the European Super League due to start?
4. What did the UK Prime Minister say the ESL would do to football?
5. Who did people say created the ESL?
6. How many teams from England joined the ESL?
7. How many teams from Germany and France joined the ESL?
8. What does the article say is bigger in Germany than in England?
9. What does the article say Premier League clubs wanted to take?
10. What did FIFA say ESL players could be banned from?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

- 1) How long did it take the European Super League to fall apart?
 - a) just over 48 hours
 - b) exactly 48 hours
 - c) less than 48 hours
 - d) around 48 hours
- 2) How many teams launched the European Super League (ESL)?
 - a) 12
 - b) 6
 - c) 10
 - d) 8
- 3) When was the European Super League due to start?
 - a) August
 - b) October
 - c) September
 - d) December
- 4) What did the UK Prime Minister say the ESL would do to football?
 - a) make it better
 - b) destroy it
 - c) allow it to make more money
 - d) make it less popular
- 5) Who did people say created the ESL?
 - a) club managers
 - b) fans
 - c) venture capitalists
 - d) greedy club owners
- 6) How many teams from England joined the ESL?
 - a) 8
 - b) 6
 - c) 7
 - d) 9
- 7) How many teams from Germany and France joined the ESL?
 - a) none
 - b) one
 - c) two
 - d) four
- 8) What does the article say is bigger in Germany than in England?
 - a) the World Cup trophy cabinet
 - b) season ticket prices
 - c) fan power
 - d) goal posts
- 9) What does the article say Premier League clubs wanted to take?
 - a) all the money
 - b) penalties
 - c) a time-out
 - d) legal action
- 10) What did FIFA say ESL players could be banned from?
 - a) the World Cup
 - b) the Champions League
 - c) all football
 - d) entering football stadia

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

Role A – Football

You think football is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): tennis, skiing or sailing.

Role B – Tennis

You think tennis is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): football, skiing or sailing.

Role C – Skiing

You think skiing is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): tennis, football or sailing.

Role D – Sailing

You think sailing is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): tennis, skiing or football.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'football' and 'fan'.

football	fan

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• plan• group• players• greedy• much• due	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• agreed• signed• 51• options• expel• banned
--	---

FOOTBALL / SOCCER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

Write five GOOD questions about football / soccer 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.

FOOTBALL / SOCCER DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'football'?
3. What do you think of football?
4. What is the better word - 'football' or 'soccer'?
5. Why is football so popular?
6. What do you think of a European Super League?
7. What do you think of the ESL falling apart within 48 hours?
8. What do you think of fan power?
9. What do you think of billionaire club owners?
10. How important is football in your country?

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FOOTBALL / SOCCER DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'fan'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of England's Premier League?
15. What is the world's greatest football club?
16. Should football fans own their clubs?
17. Are greedy club owners harming football?
18. What can clubs do to make football better?
19. What three adjectives best describe this story?
20. What questions would you like to ask the club owners?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

The plan (1) _____ by Europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seems to be falling (2) _____ less than 48 hours after it was launched. A group of 12 of the richest football teams in Europe announced they would (3) _____ part in the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created fury among fans, players, managers, Premier League teams and (4) _____ the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William. They all said the new league would destroy football. They said it was created by (5) _____ club owners. There has been so much anger that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City are already preparing to withdraw from the ESL due a (6) _____ from fans.

Six of England's richest teams agreed to participate (7) _____ the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy also (8) _____ up. No teams from Germany and France are involved, making the ESL (9) _____ European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so fan power is bigger in Germany than in England. The UK government said it will take "whatever action is (10) _____," including legal options, to stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would take legal action to (11) _____ the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing bodies FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could be (12) _____ from the World Cup.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) created | (b) creates | (c) creative | (d) creation |
| 2. | (a) part | (b) party | (c) apart | (d) partner |
| 3. | (a) give | (b) do | (c) take | (d) have |
| 4. | (a) eventual | (b) even | (c) every | (d) even |
| 5. | (a) greed | (b) greedily | (c) greedy | (d) greediness |
| 6. | (a) whiplash | (b) backlash | (c) splash | (d) lashes |
| 7. | (a) at | (b) in | (c) of | (d) on |
| 8. | (a) singed | (b) signed | (c) sinned | (d) sine |
| 9. | (a) fewer | (b) smaller | (c) less | (d) lower |
| 10. | (a) must | (b) needy | (c) all | (d) necessary |
| 11. | (a) exalt | (b) extend | (c) exhale | (d) expel |
| 12. | (a) bond | (b) binned | (c) bend | (d) banned |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

Paragraph 1

1. create a raaeabwky super league
2. 48 hours after it was uedhanlc
3. ucndnanoe they would take part
4. the new league would rosdety football
5. it was created by edyreg club owners
6. due to a asclkhba from fans

Paragraph 2

7. teams agreed to aetapprtci
8. the UK ntogreevmn
9. take whatever action is reanessyc
10. take elagl action
11. plex the six English clubs
12. Football's gerngnvoi bodies

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () and Britain's Prince William. They all said the new league would destroy football. They said it was created
- () FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could be banned from the World Cup.
- () by greedy club owners. There has been so much anger that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City
- () among fans, players, managers, Premier League teams and even the British Prime Minister
- () Six of England's richest teams agreed to participate in the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top
- () Europe announced they would take part in the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created fury
- () teams from Spain, including Barcelona, and Italy also signed up. No teams from Germany
- (**1**) The plan created by Europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seems to be falling
- () apart less than 48 hours after it was launched. A group of 12 of the richest football teams in
- () and France are involved, making the ESL less European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so fan
- () are already preparing to withdraw from the ESL due a backlash from fans.
- () power is bigger in Germany than in England. The UK government said it will take "whatever action is
- () action to expel the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing bodies
- () necessary," including legal options, to stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would take legal

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

1. clubs super Football league . breakaway a create to
2. of richest 12 group teams . A the of
3. said destroy new football . They league would the
4. greedy by it was said They created owners .
5. preparing Chelsea ESL . are from to withdraw the
6. to of agreed teams England's richest Six participate .
7. by In teams are Germany, owned fans . 51-per-cent
8. The will take government necessary . action is whatever
9. clubs . legal to action six Take the expel
10. ESL . ban They in who played players could the

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

The plan created *to / by* Europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seems to be falling *part / apart* less than 48 hours after it was *launched / lunched*. A group of 12 of the richest football teams in Europe announced they would take part *on / in* the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created fury among fans, players, managers, Premier League teams and *ever / even* the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William. They *all / whole* said the new league would destroy football. They said it was created by greedy club *owner / owners*. There has been so much *anger / hunger* that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City are already preparing *for / to* withdraw from the ESL due a backlash from *fan / fans*.

Six of England's richest teams *greedy / agreed* to participate in the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy also *singed / signed* up. No teams from Germany and France *be / are* involved, making the ESL *less / fewer* European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent *own / owned* by fans, so fan power is bigger in Germany than *at / in* England. The UK government said it will take "whatever action is necessary," including *legally / legal* options, to stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would take legal action to *exhale / expel* the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing *bodies / hips* FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could be *binned / banned* from the World Cup.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

Th_ pl_n cr__t_d by __r_p_'s t_p f__tb_ll cl_bs t_ cr__t_ _ br__k_w_y s_p_r l__g__ s__ms t_ b_ f_ll_ng _p_rt l_ss th_n 48 h__rs _ft_r _t w_s l__nch_d. _ gr__p _f 12 _f th_ r_ch_st f__tb_ll t__ms _n __r_p_ _nn__nc_d th_y w__ld t_k_ p_rt _n th_ __r_p__n S_p_r L__g__ (_SL) st_rt_ng _n __g_st. Th_s cr__t_d f_ry _m_ng f_ns, pl_y_rs, m_n_g_rs, Pr_m__r L__g__ t__ms _nd _v_n th_ Br_t_sh Pr_m_ M_n_st_r _nd Br_t__n's Pr_nc_ W_ll__m. Th_y _ll s__d th_ n_w l__g__ w__ld d_str_y f__tb_ll. Th_y s__d _t w_s cr__t_d by gr__dy cl_b _wn_rs. Th_r_ h_s b__n s_ m_ch _ng_r th_t t_p cl_bs Ch_ls__ _nd M_nch_st_r C_ty _r_ _lr__dy pr_p_r_ng t_ w_thdr_w fr_m th_ _SL d__ _ b_ckl_sh fr_m f_ns.

S_x _f _ngl_nd's r_ch_st t__ms _gr__d t_ p_rt_c_p_t_ _n th_ br__k_w_y _SL, _ncl_d_ng M_nch_st_r _n_t_d, L_v_rp__l _nd _rs_n_l. T_p t__ms fr_m Sp__n (_ncl_d_ng B_rc_l_n_) _nd _t_ly _ls_ s_gn_d _p. N_ t__ms fr_m G_rm_ny _nd Fr_nc_ _r_ _nv_lv_d, m_k_ng th_ _SL l_ss __r_p__n. _n G_rm_ny, t__ms _r_ 51-p_r_c_nt _wn_d by f_ns, s_ f_n p_w_r _s b_gg_r _n G_rm_ny th_n _n _ngl_nd. Th_ _K g_v_rnm_nt s__d _t w_ll t_k_ "wh_t_v_r _ct__n _s n_c_ss_ry," _ncl_d_ng l_g_l _pt__ns, t_ st_p th_ _SL. F__rt__n Pr_m__r L__g__ cl_bs s__d th_y w__ld t_k_ l_g_l _ct__n t_ _xp_l th_ s_x _ngl_sh cl_bs fr_m th_ Pr_m__r L__g__. F__tb_ll's g_v_rnng b_d__s F_F_ _nd __F_ s__d pl_y_rs wh_ pl_y_d _n th_ _SL c__ld b_ b_nn_d fr_m th_ W_rld C_p.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

the plan created by europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seems to be falling apart less than 48 hours after it was launched a group of 12 of the richest football teams in europe announced they would take part in the european super league esl starting in august this created fury among fans players managers premier league teams and even the british prime minister and britain's prince william they all said the new league would destroy football they said it was created by greedy club owners there has been so much anger that top clubs chelsea and manchester city are already preparing to withdraw from the esl due a backlash from fans

six of england's richest teams agreed to participate in the breakaway esl including manchester united liverpool and arsenal top teams from spain including barcelona and italy also signed up no teams from germany and france are involved making the esl less european in germany teams are 51 percent owned by fans so fan power is bigger in germany than in england the uk government said it will take whatever action is necessary including legal options to stop the esl fourteen premier league clubs said they would take legal action to expel the six english clubs from the premier league football's governing bodies fifa and uefa said players who played in the esl could be banned from the world cup

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league.html>

The plan created by Europe's top football clubs to create a breakaway super league seem to be falling apart less than 48 hours after it was launched. A group of 12 of the richest football teams in Europe announced they would take part in the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This created fury among fans, players, managers, Premier League teams and even the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William. They all said the new league would destroy football. They said it was created by greedy club owners. There has been so much anger that top clubs Chelsea and Manchester City are already preparing to withdraw from the ESL due to a backlash from fans. Six of England's richest teams agreed to participate in the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal. Top teams from Spain (including Barcelona) and Italy also signed up. No teams from Germany and France are involved, making the ESL less European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so fan power is bigger in Germany than in England. The UK government said it will take "whatever action is necessary," including legal options, to stop the ESL. Fourteen Premier League clubs said they would take legal action to expel the six English clubs from the Premier League. Football's governing bodies FIFA and UEFA said players who played in the ESL could be banned from the World Cup.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. FOOTBALL / SOCCER: Make a poster about football / soccer. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. 51%: Write a magazine article about all sports teams having to be 51% controlled by fans. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on football / soccer. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on "the beautiful game". Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. b 3. f 4. c 5. g 6. a 7. e
8. k 9. l 10. i 11. h 12. n 13. j 14. m

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F b T c F d T e T f T g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. c	3. i	4. b	5. d
6. j	7. a	8. f	9. h	10. e

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Less than 48 hours
2. Twelve
3. August
4. Destroy it
5. Greedy club owners
6. Six
7. None
8. Fan power
9. Legal action
10. The World Cup

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Football clubs to create a breakaway super league.
2. A group of 12 of the richest teams.
3. They said the new league would destroy football.
4. They said it was created by greedy owners.
5. Chelsea are preparing to withdraw from the ESL.
6. Six of England's richest teams agreed to participate.
7. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans.
8. The government will take whatever action is necessary.
9. Take legal action to expel the six clubs.
10. They could ban players who played in the ESL.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)