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## **Level 0 – 5th March 2026**

### **Red cards for football players who hide racist comments**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-0.html>

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**Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-0.html>

FIFA, the group that controls football, wants a new rule to stop racism. It wants red cards for players who cover their mouths when they argue with other players. Last month, Brazilian player Vinicius Junior was playing for Real Madrid. He said another player racially abused him. He has been racially abused 20 times since 2018.

FIFA wants players who cover their mouths to be sent off. They can also get a 10-game ban. FIFA said if a player covered their mouth, their comments could be racist, so that player should get a red card. Real Madrid is happy with a new red-card rule. It will work to get rid of racism. It hopes to end racism and hate in football.

Sources: [https://www.espn.com/soccer/story/\\_/id/48073911/fifa-boss-gianni-infantino-calls-red-cards-players-cover-mouths](https://www.espn.com/soccer/story/_/id/48073911/fifa-boss-gianni-infantino-calls-red-cards-players-cover-mouths)  
<https://news.sky.com/story/footballers-who-cover-mouths-during-on-pitch-rows-should-be-sent-off-says-fifa-boss-13513895>  
<https://sports.yahoo.com/articles/chelsea-could-rival-newcastle-nunez-223734834.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. the group that controls     | a. abused              |
| 2. a new rule to               | b. cover their mouths  |
| 3. red cards for players who   | c. since 2018          |
| 4. they argue                  | d. stop racism         |
| 5. Vinicius Junior was playing | e. racially abused him |
| 6. He said another player      | f. with other players  |
| 7. He has been racially        | g. for Real Madrid     |
| 8. 20 times                    | h. football            |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. players who cover           | a. card rule    |
| 2. They can also get a 10-game | b. end racism   |
| 3. their comments could        | c. their mouths |
| 4. that player should get      | d. football     |
| 5. happy with a new red-       | e. be racist    |
| 6. It will work to get rid     | f. a red card   |
| 7. It hopes to                 | g. of racism    |
| 8. hate in                     | h. ban          |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-0.html>

FIFA, the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ football, wants a new rule (2) \_\_\_\_\_. It wants red cards for players who (3) \_\_\_\_\_ when they argue (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Last month, Brazilian player Vinicius Junior was playing for Real Madrid. He said another player (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He has been racially abused (6) \_\_\_\_\_ 2018.

FIFA wants (7) \_\_\_\_\_ their mouths to be sent off. They can also get a (8) \_\_\_\_\_. FIFA said if a player covered their mouth, their comments (9) \_\_\_\_\_, so that player should (10) \_\_\_\_\_ card. Real Madrid is happy with a new red-card rule. It (11) \_\_\_\_\_ get rid of racism. It hopes to end racism and (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-0.html>

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# RACISM

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about racism 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

