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Level 1 – 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-1.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-1.html>

FIFA, the group that controls world football, wants to make a new rule to stop racism. It wants red cards for players who cover their mouths when they argue with other players.

Recently, there have been several cases of racism. Last month, Brazilian player Vinicius Junior was playing for Real Madrid. Vinicius said a player racially insulted him. The match was stopped for ten minutes. Vinicius, 25, has been racially abused 20 times since joining Madrid in 2018.

The boss of FIFA wants players who cover their mouths to be sent off. A player who receives a red card for racism can get a 10-game ban. FIFA said if a player covered their mouth during an argument, their comments could be racist, so that player should be sent off. Real Madrid is happy with a new red-card rule for racism. It said it would work with everybody to get rid of racism. It hopes to end racism, violence, and hate in sport.

Sources: 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-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the group that controls | a. cover their mouths |
| 2. make a new rule | b. for ten minutes |
| 3. red cards for players who | c. cases |
| 4. when they argue | d. joining Madrid in 2018 |
| 5. there have been several | e. world football |
| 6. a player racially | f. with other players |
| 7. The match was stopped | g. to stop racism |
| 8. since | h. insulted him |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The boss | a. could be racist |
| 2. get a 10-game | b. of racism |
| 3. covered their mouth | c. new red-card rule |
| 4. their comments | d. hate in sport |
| 5. Real Madrid is happy with a | e. during an argument |
| 6. It said it would work | f. of FIFA |
| 7. get rid | g. ban |
| 8. violence and | h. with everybody |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-1.html>

FIFA, the (1) _____ world football, wants to make a new rule (2) _____. It wants red cards for players who cover their mouths when they (3) _____ players. Recently, there have been (4) _____ racism. Last month, Brazilian player Vinicius Junior was playing for Real Madrid. Vinicius said a player (5) _____. The match was stopped for ten minutes. Vinicius, 25, has been racially abused 20 (6) _____ Madrid in 2018.

The boss of FIFA wants players who cover their mouths to (7) _____. A player who receives a red card for racism can get a (8) _____. FIFA said if a player covered their mouth (9) _____, their comments (10) _____, so that player should be sent off. Real Madrid is happy with a new red-card rule for racism. It said it would work with everybody to (11) _____ racism. It hopes to end racism, (12) _____ in sport.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-1.html>

FIFA, the group that controls world football, wants to make a new rule to stop racism. It wants red cards for players who cover their mouths when they argue with other players. Recently, there have been several cases of racism. Last month, Brazilian player Vinicius Junior was playing for Real Madrid. Vinicius said a player racially insulted him. The match was stopped for ten minutes. Vinicius, 25, has been racially abused 20 times since joining Madrid in 2018. The boss of FIFA wants players who cover their mouths to be sent off. A player who receives a red card for racism can get a 10-game ban. FIFA said if a player covered their mouth during an argument, their comments could be racist, so that players should be sent off. Real Madrid is happy with a new red-card rule for racism. It said it would work with everybody to get rid of racism. It hopes to end racism, violence, and hate in sport.

RACISM SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-4.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) _____

