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## **Level 2** – 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-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-2.html>

FIFA, the organization 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. If a player gets a red card, they are sent off. Recently, there have been several cases of racism. Last month, Brazilian international Vinicius Junior, 25, was playing for Real Madrid against Benfica. Vinicius said a Benfica player racially insulted him. The match was then suspended for ten minutes. Vinicius has faced 20 cases of racial abuse since joining Madrid in 2018.

The boss of FIFA wants footballers who cover their mouths to be sent off. A player who receives a red card for discrimination can get up to a 10-match ban. The FIFA boss said if a player covered their mouth during an argument, any comments they made could be racist, so that player should be sent off. Real Madrid is happy that FIFA is thinking about a new red-card rule for racism. It said it would also continue working together with all institutions to get rid of racism. It hopes to end racism, violence, and hate in sport and society.

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-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the organization that controls | a. off                    |
| 2. make a new rule                | b. cover their mouths     |
| 3. red cards for players who      | c. world football         |
| 4. when they argue                | d. joining Madrid in 2018 |
| 5. they are sent                  | e. with other players     |
| 6. there have been several        | f. for ten minutes        |
| 7. The match was then suspended   | g. to stop racism         |
| 8. racial abuse since             | h. cases of racism        |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. a red card                 | a. with all institutions |
| 2. get up to a 10-            | b. for discrimination    |
| 3. covered their mouth during | c. and society           |
| 4. that player should         | d. racism                |
| 5. a new red-card             | e. be sent off           |
| 6. continue working together  | f. an argument           |
| 7. It hopes to end            | g. rule for racism       |
| 8. hate in sport              | h. match ban             |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-2.html>

FIFA, the organization (1) \_\_\_\_\_ football, wants to make a new rule (2) \_\_\_\_\_. It wants red cards for players who cover their mouths when they argue with other players. If (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a red card, they are sent off. Recently, there have been (4) \_\_\_\_\_ racism. Last month, Brazilian international Vinicius Junior, 25, was playing for Real Madrid against Benfica. Vinicius said a Benfica player (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The match was then suspended for ten minutes. Vinicius has faced 20 cases of racial (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Madrid in 2018.

The boss of FIFA wants footballers who cover their mouths to (7) \_\_\_\_\_. A player who receives a red card for discrimination can get up to a (8) \_\_\_\_\_. The FIFA boss said if a player covered their mouth (9) \_\_\_\_\_, any comments they made could be racist, so that player should (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Real Madrid is happy that FIFA is thinking about a new red-card rule for racism. It said it would (11) \_\_\_\_\_ together with all institutions to get rid of racism. It hopes to end racism, violence, and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and society.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-2.html>

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# RACISM SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260305-racism-red-card-2.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) \_\_\_\_\_

