

Rules and respect

Level 2 • Intermediate

1 Warmer

What do you think is meant by the phrase 'rules and respect'?

2 Key words

Write these key words into the sentences.

group mentality grim declare winning mentality qualify objective
self-confidence stroll restore native tongue pitch

- When you officially announce that something is true or happening, you _____ it.
- If your smile is _____, it is serious or even unfriendly.
- When you _____, you walk without hurrying.
- Thinking like a team: _____.
- Thinking positively, with a view to succeeding: _____.
- Your _____ is the language you first learnt and spoke at home while you were growing up.
- An _____ is something that you plan to achieve, especially in business or work.
- A _____ is a place or ground where sport is played.
- When you have _____, you have the feeling that you can do things well and that people respect you.
- When you _____ something, you bring it back to the condition it was before, or make someone have a particular feeling again.
- When you _____ for something you reach a particular stage of a competition by competing successfully in an earlier stage.

3 Skim-reading

Skim-read the article to find the answers to these questions.

- What nationality is the England football team's new manager?
- Which well-known teams has he managed in the past?
- Why didn't Capello speak English at the press conference?
- What language does he speak with the England team players?
- What is going to take place in September 2008?

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Rules and respect are the buzz words as Capello seeks winning mentality

Richard Williams
February 6, 2008

- 1 At Milan, Juventus and Real Madrid the players called Fabio Capello 'Mister', the name given to generations of managers in Italy and Spain by the many British football coaches around the world. In England, however, he will have another title. The players can call him 'Boss', Capello declared.
 - 2 The England football squad will have to do exactly what the Italian says. And that means no wasting time with computer games, no strolling down to breakfast whenever they feel like it, and absolutely no golf before international football matches.
 - 3 "After the match they can play all the golf they like," Capello said with a grim smile during a press conference, when he explained the need for strict rules.
 - 4 "We are only together for a short time," he said, "and in that time you need to create a way of working. To do that you need to set some rules. Eating together and getting up from the table at the same time and being punctual – these things are about respect for other people and for each other. We don't have a long time to create a group mentality. It's important to spend time together.
 - 5 "Compared to football clubs, we don't have many days together. Therefore we need strict rules. If we follow those rules, we'll create a group and a specific winning mentality, which is what I want."
 - 6 "People make mistakes but, if they want to be part of this group, they will follow the rules. If someone doesn't, then we will analyse why the rules were broken and take the appropriate course of action."
 - 7 At the press conference, headphones were provided for journalists who needed a simultaneous translation from the manager's native tongue. "I will speak English with you when I am sure that I know all the terms and all the right words," he said.
- "You are good at twisting things, so I want to be very careful. But with the players I can explain and communicate in English and I'm happy about that."
- 8 Capello's objective is to create a unified team in time for the first World Cup qualifying game against Andorra in September. In the meantime, he will be studying videos of each friendly match and passing on his comments to the players.
 - 9 "We've worked very hard on tactics for the last few days in order to create a group mentality and, more importantly, a different way of moving on the pitch," he said. "I've seen some English clubs move on the pitch in the way I want my team to move. So for some it won't be anything new. Others who aren't used to moving this way will have to learn."
 - 10 Psychologically, his main task will be to restore the players' self-confidence which was so badly damaged when the England team failed to qualify for Euro 2008. But that, as he pointed out, is not an overnight job.
 - 11 "I want the team to regain their winning mentality by being confident in their own resources and by playing bravely. I believe we need to leave the past behind. We need a positive mind-set and to look ahead. But we can't perform miracles. We've only just started our work. Give us time to show what we can do."
 - 12 So, after a month in England, what was his view of England's players? "I think players are the same everywhere," he concluded. "My first impressions of these players are very good. They're very attentive and eager to impress. With this spirit and mentality I believe we will be able to do very well."

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First published in *The Guardian*, 06/02/08

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4 Comprehension check

According to the article, are these sentences *True (T)* or *False (F)*?

1. Capello wants the England players to call him 'Mister'.
2. Capello wants the players to eat together and leave the table at the same time.
3. He says the players should not play golf or computer games.
4. He believes that strict rules will lead to higher earnings.
5. Capello doesn't completely trust journalists.
6. He wants the players to move differently on the football pitch.
7. He thinks England will need a miracle in order to beat Andorra.
8. He says football players are the same all over the world.

5 Vocabulary: What was the score?

a) Match the results on the left with the phrases on the right.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. England 0:0 Switzerland | <i>four all or it was a draw</i> |
| 2. England 1:0 Switzerland | <i>nil nil or it was a no-score draw</i> |
| 3. England 4:4 Switzerland | <i>two one to Switzerland</i> |
| 4. England 1:2 Switzerland | <i>one nil to England</i> |

b) What was the score in England's match against Switzerland on February 6th 2008?

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2/hi/football/internationals/7229823.stm>

c) What was the result of the last football match you watched?

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6 Discussion: Football small talk

Think about the last football match you watched. Talk about it with a partner as though you watched it yesterday. Use these questions to start off and continue the small talk.

- What did you think of the game yesterday?
- What was the score?
- What did you think of the second goal / the goal keeper / the penalty?
- Do you think they can win the next match?
- What do you think of the new manager?
- Who would you choose as captain of the national team?
- Who do you support?

7 Webquest

Watch a short video about Capello on www.fabiocapello.org.uk and find the answers to the following questions on the website.

- When did Fabio Capello take over as England manager?
- How much does he earn?
- What do visitors to the website think about an Italian managing the England football team? (see the visitor poll)

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KEY

2 Key words

1. declare
2. grim
3. stroll
4. group mentality
5. winning mentality
6. native tongue
7. objective
8. pitch
9. self-confidence
10. restore
11. qualify

3 Skim-reading

1. Italian
2. Milan, Juventus and Real Madrid
3. He was worried the journalists would twist his words (mis-quote him).
4. English
5. The first World Cup qualifying match against Andorra.

4 Comprehension check

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. T
7. F
8. T

5 Vocabulary: What was the score?

- a)
1. *nil nil or it was a no-score draw*
 2. *one nil to England*
 3. *four all or it was a draw*
 4. *two one to Switzerland*
- b) 2:1 to England