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## **Level 2**

### **Players say racism and homophobia common in football**

**20th March, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140320-racism-homophobia-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140320-racism-homophobia-2.html>

Professional football players in England have told a campaign group that racism and homophobia are common. Over 200 players from the Premier League, and lower leagues, took part in a survey made by the group Kick It Out. The group said racism and homophobia were everywhere in English football. Over half of the players said they regularly saw racism and homophobia. A quarter said they got racist or homophobic comments from fans or other players. One in five said they saw it from their own teammates. Many players said there should be better policing at football matches.

Kick It Out said things were getting better slowly in football. Many players complained publicly about the slow progress in tackling racism and discrimination in football. Former Premier League player Paul Mortimer said there was less racism and homophobia now than there was in the 1980s and 1990s. He said there is still discrimination in all clubs and at training grounds across the country, but things have improved. He said players and fans still use racist and homophobic language. He added: "This kind of mentality is still in the dark ages. It has to move on."

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-2582945/Premier-League-stars-reveal-racism-homophobia-rife-game.html>  
<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2014/mar/18/kick-it-out-survey-racism-rule-rooney>  
<http://www.kickitout.org/news/200-current-premier-league-and-football-league-stars-undertake-kick-it-out-consultation/>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140320-racism-homophobia-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Professional               | a. group            |
| 2. a campaign                 | b. better policing  |
| 3. racism and homophobia      | c. in a survey      |
| 4. took part                  | d. everywhere       |
| 5. racism and homophobia were | e. own teammates    |
| 6. homophobic comments        | f. football players |
| 7. they saw it from their     | g. from fans        |
| 8. there should be            | h. are common       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. things were getting             | a. in all clubs       |
| 2. Many players complained         | b. in tackling racism |
| 3. the slow progress               | c. fans               |
| 4. there was less racism and       | d. publicly           |
| 5. there is still discrimination   | e. across the country |
| 6. training grounds                | f. better slowly      |
| 7. players and                     | g. in the dark ages   |
| 8. This kind of mentality is still | h. homophobia now     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140320-racism-homophobia-2.html>

Professional football players in England (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that racism and homophobia are common. Over 200 players from the Premier League, (2) \_\_\_\_\_, took part in a survey made by the group Kick It Out. The group said racism and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in English football. Over half of the players said they regularly saw racism and homophobia. A quarter said they got racist or homophobic (4) \_\_\_\_\_ or other players. One in five said (5) \_\_\_\_\_ own teammates. Many players said there (6) \_\_\_\_\_ at football matches.

Kick It Out said things were (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in football. Many players complained publicly (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in tackling racism and discrimination in football. Former Premier League player Paul Mortimer (9) \_\_\_\_\_ racism and homophobia now than there was in the 1980s and 1990s. He said there is still discrimination (10) \_\_\_\_\_ training grounds across the country, but things have improved. He said players (11) \_\_\_\_\_ racist and homophobic language. He added: "This kind of mentality is (12) \_\_\_\_\_. It has to move on."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140320-racism-homophobia-2.html>

Professional football players in England have told a campaign group that racism and homophobia are common. Over 200 players from the Premier League, and lower leagues, took part in a survey made by the group Kick It Out. The group said racism and homophobia were everywhere in English football. Over half of the players said they regularly saw racism and homophobia. A quarter said they got racist or homophobic comments from fans or other players. One in five said they saw it from their own teammates. Many players said there should be better policing at football matches. Kick It Out said things were getting better slowly in football. Many players complained publicly about the slow progress in tackling racism and discrimination in football. Former Premier League player Paul Mortimer said there was less racism and homophobia now than there was in the 1980s and 1990s. He said there is still discrimination in all clubs and at training grounds across the country, but things have improved. He said players and fans still use racist and homophobic language. He added: "This kind of mentality is still in the dark ages. It has to move on."

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*Players say racism and homophobia common in football – 20th March, 2014*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

---

c)

---

d)

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e)

---

f)

---

g)

---

h)

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