

The Ex-Footballer / While-Reading / Activity 1

Pair the students. Give the hand-out to each pair. Ask them to write adjectives that describe the narrator and the ex-footballer. When they finish, ask them to walk around and see what the other pairs of students have found.

Possible answers:

Narrator: *clumsy, adventurous, blushing agreeable, careless enthusiastic, excited, polite, prejudiced ...*

Ex-footballer: *creative, talented, capable, skilled, blue-eyed, frank, hardworking, kind, modest, self-confident, generous ...*

The Ex-Footballer / While-Reading / Activity 2

Give the hand-out to each student. Ask them to write as many answers as they can without reading the text. When they finish, the students walk around class and try to fill in the answers that they couldn't find.

Next, ask the students to look at the text to check if their answers are right or wrong.

1. "Welcome!" (line 16) *ex-footballer*
2. "I broke your sculpture." (line 17) *narrator*
3. "Repairs are my job" (line 18) *ex-footballer*
4. "What I really need is a tailor's", (line 19) *narrator*
5. "This tear needs repairing." (line 21) *narrator*
6. "My parents only bought it yesterday." (line 25) *narrator*
7. "I've been waiting a long, long time to repair a football shirt." (line 26) *ex-footballer*
8. "Are you a striker?" (line 34) *ex-footballer*
9. "I play for both the street and the school team." (line 37) *narrator*
10. "My dad doesn't see football as a profession." (line 39) *narrator*
11. "I feel like a lion with a golden mane running towards the goal." (line 43) *narrator*
12. "The tear hardly shows now." (line 47) *narrator*
13. "Why didn't you become a football player then?" (line 54) *narrator*
14. "Follow your dreams," (line 57) *ex-footballer*
15. "Do you understand now?" (line 68) *ex-footballer*

The Ex-Footballer / While-Reading / Activity 3

Give the hand-outs to each student. Point out what the boy says in the first picture. Tell them that the boy is saying this but he is thinking something completely different. Ask them to fill in the thought bubble. Students walk around the class and show their answers to each other. Then they complete the rest of the bubbles. When they finish, students share their ideas with each other.

Possible answers:

1. *Oh my God! He is going to ruin my T-shirt.*
2. *Oh no! It's 8 o'clock and I am going to be late for the football match.*
3. *If you put it next to the door, of course someone will break it!*
4. *I don't think I will be able to repair it.*

The Ex-Footballer / While-Reading / Activity 4

Give the hand-outs to each student. Ask the students to read the lines and find the line number for each sentence. Group the students and ask them to discuss which the most important line of the story is. Walk around and monitor the group activity.

When they finish discussing, ask each student to choose the most important line and write their reasons. When they finish, ask the students to swap their papers. Give them some time to read each other's paper. Next, ask the students to swap their papers and read another paper. Do this 3-4 times.

Note: Give the student a word limit to write.

The Ex-Footballer / While-Reading / Activity 5

Hang five or six photocopies on the walls around the classroom. Pair the students. One of the pair becomes the writer; the other pair is the runner. Runners read the questions on the wall and repeat it to the "writer pair" to write it down. When they finish writing all the questions, they answer them. The first group to finish the activity is the winner.

Next, read the questions and answer them in class.

Possible answers:

What does the title of the story tell you? *The story is about an ex-footballer.*

Where does the story take place? *It takes place in a repair shop.*

Who are the characters of the story? *The ex-footballer (or repair man) and a boy.*

What is the story about? *The story is about a boy whose shirt is ruined. He takes it to a repair man.*

What questions do you have about the story? *Is the man going to repair the shirt? What will the boy tell his family? Is his father going to be angry with him? ...*