

Unit 9: Exam1 (12th grade)

Reading

Read the following text and answer the questions:

Are today's young sports stars overpaid? It's an opinion you'll often hear repeated, especially in the world of football. The figures are astonishing. When the Welsh player Gareth Bale joined Real Madrid in 2013, his reported salary was around £250,000 a week or, if you prefer, £13 million a year. So every week he earns as much as the average Real supporter makes in ten years. This may be an extreme example, but there are a lot more footballers around the world earning almost as much.

It's a situation that makes some people very angry, but those who are infuriated by it often forget what players have to do to get to the top, and the risks involved. A new book by Wayne Barton tells the story of some of those who fell on the way up. These are young men who achieved the dream of playing for the famous club Manchester United, but only had short careers, often because of injuries. Take young Tony Gill, for example, who was on his way to becoming a regular first team player when he hurt his leg and was never able to recover, or the young forward Deiniol Graham, who broke his arm and never played professionally again.

The list of these tragedies goes on, but the story that stands out is that of Giuliano Maiorana. At the age of 19, he was playing for an amateur team in Cambridgeshire, England when he was noticed by one of Manchester United's many scouts, who search the lower levels of football for promising young players. At first Giuliano thought the offer of a trial for the world-famous Manchester club was a joke. It wasn't – only months later, he played his first match at United's home ground, Old Trafford. He still remembers the mixture of excitement and terror he felt.

Unfortunately, he didn't get on well with the manager, and was soon playing in the reserve team. It was in a reserve match two years later that his knee was badly damaged. Soon, at the age of 24, his career was finished. For seven years after that, he couldn't even watch football. He now works for his family's business back in Cambridge, moving furniture, and says that he now wishes he hadn't been so good at football when he was young.

1) Answer the questions:

1- What nationality is Gareth Bale?

.....

2- How much money did Gareth Bale earn a year?

.....

3- What is a common reason why young players stop playing?

.....

4- What did Giuliano Maiorana think when he was first asked to play for Manchester United?

.....

5- How did he feel the first time he played for Manchester United?

.....

2) Find words or phrases in the text that have these meanings:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1- very surprising ----- | 5- not professional ----- |
| 2- made very angry ----- | 6- having future possibilities ----- |
| 3- sad stories ----- | 7- test ----- |
| 4- great fear ----- | 8- have a good relationship ----- |
| 9- second choice ----- | |

3) Choose the correct answer:

1- How does he feel now when he looks back on his football career?

- A. He is sorry that he was ever successful.*
B. He is happier now, working for his family.
C. He feels proud of what he achieved.

2- Does the writer feel angry about football stars' salaries?

- A. He is a little bit angry that they are paid so much.*
B. He realises that being a professional footballer is not an easy life.
C. He thinks other professions should be paid as much.

3- What meaning does the prefix over add to the word paid in this sentence?

I think football players are overpaid.

- A. above* *B. too much* *C. very well*

4) Decide if the statements are TRUE or FALSE:

1- Deiniol Graham was badly injured but he started playing again.

TRUE / FALSE

2- Giuliano Maiorana has a good relationship with his manager.

TRUE / FALSE

Vocabulary

Match the words and phrases about football with their meanings:

1- referee	a- final score
2- result	b- attempt to get the ball from another player
3- defend	c- player whose main job is scoring goals
4- attack	d- send a player off the pitch
5- striker	e- goal that makes the scores level
6- challenge	f- attempt to score a goal
7- show the red card	g- person who controls the game
8- equaliser	h- try to stop the other team from scorin

Language

1) Rewrite the sentences in two ways, beginning with the words given:

1 I didn't follow my parents' advice.

I should

I wish

2 He accepted the offer of a low-paid job.

He regrets

He wishes

3 She didn't buy it when she had the chance.

She regrets

She should

2) Choose the correct answer:

1- He regrets *working not* / *not working* hard.

2- I 'm not surprised he was angry, you *shouldn't take* / *shouldn't have taken* his book without asking.

Writing

Write a report of a sporting event for a school magazine (it doesn't have to be a football match or even a real event). Use these questions to help you plan your report.

Paragraph 1: What was the match / event like in general?

Were there any particular 'talking points'?

Paragraph 2: What happened during the match / event?

What was your opinion of the things that happened?

Paragraph 3: What was the result / how did the event end?

What was your general opinion?

Paragraph 4: What conclusion(s) can you draw from the event / match?

GOOD LUCK