

## The football prima donnas

### Level

Pre-Intermediate and above

### Tasks

Deciding how interested students are in watching Euro 2008

Practising saying numbers and scanning blog entries for what these numbers mean

Reading six blog entries about the size of salaries for footballers

Identifying the odd-word out in a list of words which form collocations with '(a) salary'

Discussing the answers to questions arising from the blog entries

### How to use the lesson

- 1 Tell students that this lesson is about football. Hand out the worksheet. Students in pairs choose the reaction closest to their own and compare their choice with a partner. Find out how many students chose each answer.
- 2 Ask students to practise saying the figures. They should scan the article to find out what each figure represents.

#### Answers

*£130,000 is John Terry's weekly wage*

*Ballack, Torres and Ronaldo earn over £120,000 per week*

*Over £6 million is the annual salary of each of the footballers mentioned*

*The total wage bill for footballers in the English Premier league is now higher than £1 billion*

*Manchester United ticket prices have risen by £13% since last season*

*90 minutes is the length of a football game*

- 3 Students read the blog entries. Ask them to tell you which are 'for' and which are 'against' high salaries for footballers.

**Answers:** For: (b), (c), (e) Against: (a), (d), (f)

You may wish to look at useful vocabulary, such as: *obscene / cannot afford to / performance / ability / cheat*

- 4 Ask students to identify which word in each line does not collocate with '(a) salary'.

**Answers:** 4.1 – (b) expand 4.2 – (d) reward 4.3 – (b) clear

- 5 Divide the class into small groups in to discuss the questions. Students report back on their answers to the whole class. Encourage discussion. Finish the lesson by giving language feedback.

### Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://en.euro2008.uefa.com>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euro\\_2008](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euro_2008)

<http://money.uk.msn.com/consumer/football-finance/article.aspx?cp-documentid=8406837>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/main.jhtml?xml=/sport/2007/11/01/ufnprices101.xml>