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**Level 2 – 22nd April, 2021**

## Football fan fury over European Super League

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league-2.html>

Europe's top football clubs created a breakaway super league but it fell apart less than 48 hours after it launched. A group of 12 of the richest teams in Europe announced they would take part in the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This made fans, players and managers furious. Even the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William were angry. They said the new league would destroy football. There has been so much anger that the clubs pulled out of the ESL. This was because of protests by fans, who said the ESL was created by greedy club owners.

Six of England's richest teams agreed to join the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United and Liverpool. Top teams from Spain, like Barcelona, and Italy also signed up. No teams from Germany and France joined. This made it less European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent owned by fans, so fan power is big. The UK government said it would take whatever action is necessary, including legal action, to stop the ESL. Premier League clubs want to expel the six English clubs from their league. FIFA said players who played in the ESL could be banned from the World Cup.

Sources: <https://www.espn.com/soccer/manchester-united/story/4365066/man-united-man-city-players-voice-super-league-concerns-to-clubs-sources>  
<https://sports.yahoo.com/super-league-faces-potential-legal-215850700.html>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2021/apr/19/european-super-league-government-fa-and-uefa-unite-to-denounce-plans>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                       |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. football clubs created a breakaway | a. after it launched  |
| 2. it fell apart less than 48 hours   | b. by fans            |
| 3. This made fans, players and        | c. destroy football   |
| 4. the new league would               | d. greedy club owners |
| 5. There has been so                  | e. super league       |
| 6. the clubs pulled                   | f. much anger         |
| 7. This was because of protests       | g. managers furious   |
| 8. the ESL was created by             | h. out of the ESL     |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Six of England's richest      | a. European           |
| 2. No teams from Germany and     | b. in the ESL         |
| 3. This made it less             | c. action             |
| 4. teams are 51-per-cent owned   | d. from the World Cup |
| 5. it would take whatever action | e. France joined      |
| 6. legal                         | f. is necessary       |
| 7. players who played            | g. teams              |
| 8. banned                        | h. by fans            |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league-2.html>

Europe's top football clubs (1) \_\_\_\_\_ super league but it fell apart less than 48 hours (2) \_\_\_\_\_. A group of 12 of the richest teams in Europe announced they would (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the European Super League (ESL) starting in August. This made fans, players (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Even the British Prime Minister and Britain's Prince William were angry. They said the new league (5) \_\_\_\_\_. There has been so much anger that the clubs pulled out of the ESL. This was because of protests by fans, who said the ESL was created by (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Six of England's richest teams (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the breakaway ESL, including Manchester United and Liverpool. Top teams from Spain, like Barcelona, and Italy (8) \_\_\_\_\_. No teams from Germany and France joined. This (9) \_\_\_\_\_ European. In Germany, teams are 51-per-cent (10) \_\_\_\_\_, so fan power is big. The UK government said it would take whatever action is necessary, including (11) \_\_\_\_\_ stop the ESL. Premier League clubs want to expel the six English clubs from their league. FIFA said players (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the ESL could be banned from the World Cup.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league-2.html>

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# FOOTBALL / SOCCER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210422-european-super-league-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about football / soccer in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

