

English for football – week 12

‘Take the game by the scruff of the neck

Today's English for Football expression is **‘take the game by the scruff of the neck’**. Now, what this expression means is to change the destiny of the game, to control the game, to dominate the game, to turn the game around. Particularly when your team is losing or not playing very well one of your players steps up and changes the game by playing very, very well, by tackling hard, by scoring a goal or making an assist. So for example in the Champions League Final of two years ago when AC Milan were leading Liverpool by three goals to nil, Steven Gerrard took the game by the scruff of the neck and help the reds come back to eventually win the final on penalties. Now earlier on in the show, Damon was talking about David Beckham and in one of his most famous games, when England were playing Greece in a World Cup qualifier, **he took the game by the scruff of the neck** when England were losing 2-1 to eventually score the goal from a free kick to send England to the finals. So in this week's big games in the Premier League which of the midfielders will **take the game by the scruff of the neck?**

Examples

Beckenbauer is remembered for many reasons: his deft passing, composure, vision, ability to **"take the game by the scruff of the neck"** and probably ...

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