

languagecaster football vocabulary list

On this page you can find explanations of words and expressions connected to football from each of the podcast shows.

Podcast 21 (March 21st)

looking down in the mouth - to look sad, to feel down.

e.g. Damian was **down in the mouth** after Tottenham's loss to Chelsea.

top of the table clash - a match between the two top teams

e.g. Schalke won the **top of the table clash** against Stuttgart.

down at the bottom - the lower part of the table

e.g. Manchester City are **down at the bottom** along with Charlton in England.

to hammer - to beat a team easily by a big score

e.g. Ajax **hammered** PSV 5-1 away last weekend.

narrow the gap - reduce the lead, start catching up with the leaders.

e.g. Ajax **narrowed the gap** at the top in Holland to 5 points.

set up a goal - to help make a goal for a team mate

e.g. Ronaldo **set up a great goal** for Rooney last week.

debut - first game for a new team

e.g. He played well on his **debut** and scored a goal.

on fire - to be currently playing really well

e.g. Martin Palermo is **on fire** at the moment in Argentina.

the treble - three main competitions (League, Cup and Champions League)

e.g. Manchester United won **the treble** in 1999.

arch-rivals - main rivals, the enemy.

e.g. Celtic lost to their **arch-rivals** Rangers last week.

sent to the stand / sent from the dug out - sent off / get a red card

e.g. Denis Wise was **sent to the stand** for arguing with the referee.

thrashed - badly beaten, lost heavily

e.g. Bolton were **thrashed** by Manchester United 4-1.

set pieces - corners, throw-ons, free-kicks

e.g. Bolton are very strong at **set pieces**

three on the trot - (won) three consecutive games

e.g. S-Pulse won **three games on the trot**

get off the fence - make up your mind, take a stand

e.g. Damian was told to **get off the fence** and choose a winner.

factor - influence

e.g. The Croke Park **factor** will be huge.

to qualify - to make the final competition

e.g. England need to beat Israel **to qualify** for the finals.

a game in hand - to have played a game less than other teams.

e.g. Serbia have **a game in hand** over Portugal.

tight at the back - to have a really strong defence

e.g. Serbia **are tight at the back**, they have conceded only one goal so far.

flying - to be doing very well.

e.g. Scotland **are flying** after their victory over France.

to turn them around - to make the team play better.

e.g. Sanchez **has turned Northern Ireland around** recently.

a cracker - something really exciting

e.g. New Zealand against Costa Rica promises to be **a cracker**.