

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 32

The Bundesliga Title Race

By Damon Brewster (19th March, 2008)

Pre-Listening

Background Information

There are eleven games to go in the Bundesliga. At the start of the season Stuttgart were champions and Bayern Munich were favourites to win in 2008.

Vocabulary

Check the meaning of these words before you start listening. Match them with the meaning on the right.

Word	Meaning
_____ passionate	a. at the moment
_____ battle out	b. forward movement, positive movement
_____ particularly	c. very keen, feel very strongly about
_____ current	d. tell, let know, explain
_____ fill in	e. fight
_____ momentum	f. capacity, strength
_____ ability	g. especially

Listening

A. Detail I

Listen and find the **five** mistakes - the first has been done for you.

Hello and welcome again to the Bundesliga on languagecaster.com. My name is Hans and ~~with~~ ^{being} a passionate Bundesliga supporter I want to share from you what’s happening at the top of the Bundesliga right now with seven games to go ‘till the end of the season.

Just to fill you in, in Germany the top five teams at the start of the season get a place in Europe: the top two go to the Champions League, the third place gets a play-off position, and fourth and fifth play in the UEFA Cup. So what’s happening at the moment in the Bundesliga? Well, at the moment, there are seven teams fighting it out for places in Europe and for the Championship of Germany. I will take you through these teams backwards.

B. Detail II

Listen and fill in the spaces.

In seventh place is Karlsruhe. A very small club who is playing well beyond its _____ at the moment. Everybody is _____ their games, and Karlsruhe in seventh place are playing beautifully. Above them in sixth, is Stuttgart, the current champions. They are in _____ form at the moment with four wins in the last four games. In fifth place and fourth place we have two teams from the Rhur - Schalke and Bayer Leverkusen. These two teams seem to _____ every year battling out for fourth or third position. Leverkusen have _____ qualified for the next round of the UEFA Cup, and of course Schalke is in the next round of the Champions League.

In third _____ is Hamburg. They have been very strong this year and with forty-two points so far they are looking very good for a place in Europe. They are just _____ Werder Bremen in second place who have forty-three points. But unfortunately for all these teams, seven points clear at the top is Bayern Munich, Bayern Munchen, and it seems to all at the moment that no-one will _____ the trophy except for Bayern.

Talk in Germany has been that Werder Bremen have lost the Championship. Just a few games ago they were sitting level with Bayern, but, particularly last weekend when they were _____ 6-3 by Stuttgart they have lost _____. And at the same time they seem to have lost all their defence. So, it's Bayern Munchen to win this year.

C. Detail III

Listen again carefully. Put the teams in the correct league positions and write how many points they have.

Bayern Munich, Stuttgart, Bayer Leverkusen, Hamburg, Werder Bremen, Schalke, Karlsruhe

Team	Points
Bayern Munich	
Stuttgart	Don't know

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 32 - Answers

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Word	Meaning
___ passionate	a. at the moment
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^e ___ current	d. tell, let know, explain
^g ___ fill in	e. fight
^a ___ momentum	f. capacity, strength
^d ___ ability	g. especially

b

Listening

A. Detail I

Listen and find the **five** mistakes - the first has been done for you.

Hello and welcome again to the Bundesliga on languagecaster.com. My name is Hans and ^{being} ~~with~~ a passionate Bundesliga supporter I want to share ^{with} ~~from~~ you what’s happening at the top of the Bundesliga right now with ^{eleven} ~~seven~~ games to go ‘till the end of the season.

Just to fill you in, in Germany the top five teams at the ^{end} ~~start~~ of the season get a place in Europe: the top two go to the Champions League, the third place gets a play-off position, and fourth and fifth play in the UEFA Cup. So what’s happening at the moment in the Bundesliga? Well, at the moment, there are seven teams ^{battling} ~~fighting~~ it out for places in Europe and for the Championship of Germany. I will take you through these teams backwards.

B. Detail II

Listen and fill in the spaces.

It wasn't the first or last time it was decided that Ronaldo was the best. He's won the FIFA Player of the Year award three times in 1996, '97 and 2002. That puts him alongside Zidane as the only player to win the award three times. But of course it wasn't collecting awards and medals that makes him famous, makes many believe he deserves a mention along with the all time greats such as Pele, Maradonna, Best, Crujiff, Puskas. It was scoring goals with devastating pace and power, being able to take on defenders with not just speed but technique and incredible balance.

C. Detail III

Team	Points
Bayern Munich	50
Werder Bremen	43
Hamburg	42
Shalke	Don't know
Bayer Leverkusen	Don't know
Stuttgart	Don't know
Karlsruhe	Don't know

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Hello and welcome again to the Bundesliga on languagecaster.com. My name is Hans and being a passionate Bundesliga supporter I want to share with you what's happening at the top of the Bundesliga right now with eleven games to go 'till the end of the season.

Just to fill you in, in Germany the top five teams at the end of the season get a place in Europe: the top two go to the Champions League, the third place gets a play-off position, and fourth and fifth play in the UEFA Cup. So what's happening at the moment in the Bundesliga? Well, at the moment, there are seven teams battling it out for places in Europe and for the Championship of Germany. I will take you through these teams backwards.

In seventh place is Karlsruhe. A very small club who is playing well beyond its ability at the moment. Everybody is enjoying their games, and Karlsruhe in seventh place are playing beautifully. Above them in sixth, is Stuttgart, the current champions. They are in hot form at the moment with four wins in the last four games. In fifth place and fourth place we have two teams from the Rhur - Schalke and Bayer Leverkusen. These two teams seem to spend every year battling out for fourth or third position. Leverkusen have just qualified for the next round of the UEFA Cup, and of course Schalke is in the next round of the Champions League.

In third position is Hamburg. They have been very strong this year and with forty-two points so far they are looking very good for a place in Europe. They are just behind Werder Bremen in second place who have forty-three points. But unfortunately for all these teams, seven points clear at the top is Bayern Munich, Bayern Munchen, and it seems to all at the moment that no-one will win the trophy except for Bayern.

Talk in Germany has been that Werder Bremen have lost the Championship. Just a few games ago they were sitting level with Bayern, but, particularly last weekend when they were beaten 6-3 by Stuttgart they have lost momentum. And at the same time they seem to have lost all their defence. So, it's Bayern Munchen to win this year.