

# David Beckham



## Pre-Reading

### A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Who is the person in the picture?
2. What country is this person from?
3. Why is this person famous?

### B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.

Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- |              |                                 |   |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---|
| _____        | 1. dream ( <i>noun</i> )        | a) well-known and liked                                     |
| <u>  c  </u> | 2. skill ( <i>noun</i> )        | b) to achieve one's dreams or goals                         |
| _____        | 3. youth ( <i>noun</i> )        | c) a strong ability that you learn and develop over time    |
| _____        | 4. championship ( <i>noun</i> ) | d) a major competition that teams or individuals try to win |
| _____        | 5. popular ( <i>adjective</i> ) | e) a long-term goal or hope                                 |
| _____        | 6. succeed ( <i>verb</i> )      | f) to end one's career due to age or injury                 |
| _____        | 7. retire ( <i>verb</i> )       | g) the age (or people of the age) between 12-18             |

# Reading

## ABOUT DAVID BECKHAM

1. David Beckham is a famous football player from England. Beckham loved football as a young child. His **dream** was to play for Manchester United. This was his favourite team.
2. At the age of 11, Beckham won a football **skills** competition. His favourite team invited him to play in its **youth** league. By the age of 20, Beckham was a full-time Manchester United player. He won many **championships** with his dream team.
3. In 2003, David Beckham moved to Spain to play for Real Madrid. He played with other famous footballers, including Ronaldo (Brazil) and Zinedine Zidane (France).
4. In 2007, Beckham moved to the US to play for the LA Galaxy. His goal was to make football popular in America. He **succeeded!**
5. David Beckham became the richest and most **popular** athlete in England. He **retired** from professional football in 2013.



# Writing

## ABOUT ME

Finish the *About Me* sentences. Use your own personal information.

1. David Beckham is from England.

*I* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. David Beckham's favourite team was Manchester United.

*My favourite* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. As a child, David Beckham's dream was to play for a professional football team.

*As a child, my dream* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. As a teen, David Beckham played for Manchester United's youth league.

*As a teen, I* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# Comprehension

## A. True or False?

Read the statements below.

If the statement is true, write T beside the sentence.

If it is false, write F and correct the information.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. David Beckham is from Spain.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. David Beckham loved football as a child.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. David Beckham and Ronaldo (Brazilian) played together for Manchester United.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Manchester United won many championships when David Beckham was on the team.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. In 2015, David Beckham quit the LA Galaxy and retired from professional football.

### Note:

#### THE RONALDOS

There are two famous footballers known as 'Ronaldo'. One is from Brazil and played with David Beckham on Real Madrid. The other is Cristiano Ronaldo. He is Portuguese. Cristiano Ronaldo joined Manchester United in 2003 after David Beckham joined Real Madrid.

## B. Timeline

Now put the timeline in the correct order. One item is not mentioned in the reading. Place NM beside this true item. Where does it fit in the timeline?

- \_\_\_\_\_ David Beckham was born in England.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Manchester United invited David Beckham to join its youth league.
- \_\_\_\_\_ David Beckham joined Real Madrid.
- \_\_\_\_\_ LA Galaxy became a popular football team in the US.
- \_\_\_\_\_ David Beckham won a children's football skills competition.
- \_\_\_\_\_ David Beckham retired from football.
- \_\_\_\_\_ David Beckham married Spice Girl, Posh (1999).
- \_\_\_\_\_ David Beckham became a full-time player for Manchester United.

# Vocabulary Review

## A. Choose the Correct Word

Choose the word or phrase with the closest meaning to the underlined word or phrase in the following sentences.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1. One of the <u>skills</u> you need to work on is kicking with both feet.</p> <p>a) dreams<br/>b) abilities<br/>c) sports</p> | <p>3. David Beckham became one of the <u>richest</u> athletes of all time.</p> <p>a) success<br/>b) wealthiest<br/>c) celebrity</p> | <p>5. We wanted to win the <u>championship</u>, and we succeeded.</p> <p>a) winner<br/>b) play<br/>c) competition</p>     |
| <p>2. My <u>dream</u> is to meet David Beckham.</p> <p>a) plan<br/>b) wish<br/>c) game</p>  | <p>4. In my <u>youth</u>, I played football every day.</p> <p>a) teenage years<br/>b) young<br/>c) children</p>                     | <p>6. Football is more <u>popular</u> than basketball at my school.</p> <p>a) expensive<br/>b) difficult<br/>c) liked</p> |

## B. Nations and Nationalities

Work with a partner. Use the information from this lesson to write sentences about these famous footballers. Don't forget to capitalise proper nouns.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. <b>Ronaldo:</b><br/>Brazil / Brazilian / Real Madrid</p> <p><i>(Luis) Ronaldo is from Brazil.</i><br/>_____</p> <p><i>He is Brazilian.</i><br/>_____</p> <p><i>He played for Real Madrid.</i><br/>_____</p> | <p>3. <b>Zinedine Zidane:</b><br/>France / French / Real Madrid</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>                           |
| <p>2. <b>Cristiano Ronaldo:</b><br/>Portugal / Portuguese / Manchester United</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>  | <p>4. <b>David Beckham:</b> England / British / Manchester United, Real Madrid, LA Galaxy</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |

# Listening

## A. Gap Fill

Listen to a recording of this reading.  
Fill in the gaps. Listen again and check your answers.

- David Beckham is a famous football player from England. Beckham loved football as a young child. His \_\_\_\_\_ was to play for Manchester United. This was his favourite team.
- At the age of 11, Beckham won a football \_\_\_\_\_ competition. His favourite team invited him to play in its \_\_\_\_\_ league. By the age of 20, Beckham was a full-time Manchester United player. He won many \_\_\_\_\_ with his dream team.
- In 2003, David Beckham moved to Spain to play for Real Madrid. He played with other \_\_\_\_\_ footballers, including Ronaldo (Brazil) and Zinedine Zidane (France).
- In 2007, Beckham moved to the US to play for the LA Galaxy. His \_\_\_\_\_ was to make football popular in America. He \_\_\_\_\_ !
- David Beckham became the \_\_\_\_\_ and most popular athlete in England. He \_\_\_\_\_ from professional football in 2013.



## B. Extra Practice

Do you want more listening practice? After you fill in the gaps in Part A, listen to the recording a few more times. Underline all of the place names, team names, and people's names. In English, these are called proper nouns.