

**ESL ENGLISH LESSON (60-120 mins) – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

## Euro 2012

Today, let's talk about the European Football Championship that is taking place this year in Poland and Ukraine. Commonly known as *Euro 2012* the championship will bring the best European teams together for what, no doubt, will be another exciting tournament. The 2012 UEFA European Football Championship will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Championship for national European football teams organised by UEFA. This year's tournament will be between the 8<sup>th</sup> June and the 1<sup>st</sup> July. It is the first time either country has hosted the event. The tournament will be between the final 16 nations. The winner of the tournament gains automatic entry into the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup hosted by Brazil. Host cities in Poland for Euro 2012 are: Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw and Poznan. In Ukraine, the host cities are: Kiev, Lvov, Donetsk and Kharkov. The semi finals will take place in Donetsk and Warsaw. The final will take place at the Olympic Stadium (Capacity 60,000) in Kiev.

The tournament will be one of the biggest events of the year but there are fears it could be hit by racism and violence. Thousands of fans will be heading to Poland and Ukraine where racism at matches sometimes happens during league matches. UEFA says it is working hard to make sure the tournament is a success. Paul Elliott, Kick it Out Ambassador said recently, "Should there be any racism the referee has the power to stop the game, speak to the stadium announcer, to do everything possible until the situation is resolved". It will be interesting to see if European leaders will boycott the tournament, especially the final, in protest at the detention of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who has been detained by her former rival and President Viktor Yanukovich. The former Prime Minister was allegedly beaten up in jail by her guards. Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry has been open in its condemnation of Germany's Angela Merkel boycotting the tournament in protest. He said, "Euro is sport, not politics, it's a football championship, not a political summit."

Meanwhile England's new boss Roy Hodgson has named his 23-man Euro 2012 squad. England will play France three days after the opening match. England supporters are desperately hoping the England squad might get further than the quarter finals! Keep your fingers crossed.

**Category: Sport / Football / Euro 2012**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate**

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## UEFA – Euro 2012 – The Groups

Let's talk about each group

### Group A

Poland

Greece

Russia

Czech Republic

### Group B

Netherlands

Denmark

Germany

Portugal

### Group C

Spain

Italy

Republic of Ireland

Croatia

### Group D

Ukraine

Sweden

France

England

The final = \_\_\_\_\_ v \_\_\_\_\_

## EXERCISES

**1. Euro 2012:** Think of three things you know about Euro 2012. Go round the room swapping details with others.

**2. Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

**3. Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

**4. Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

**5. The article:** Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?

**6. Euro 2012:** In pairs think of five things about the tournament from the article. Then add five other Euro 2012 news related topics. Write them below. Discuss together.

From the article	Other Euro 2012 topics
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

**7. Let's roleplay 1: Discussion FM:** In pairs/groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *Euro 2012*.

1	A football supporter going to Kiev
2	A national team coach
3	A spokesperson from UEFA Euro 2012 committee
4	A top European politician

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

**8. Let's think!** In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **Euro 2012**. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

Euro 2012 – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012

**9. Let's roleplay 2:** In pairs. You are in a pub watching Euro 2012. Start a conversation about: 'Euro 2012'. 5-minutes.

**10. Poland/Ukraine:** In pairs, think of five things you know about Poland. Then add five things you know about Ukraine. Discuss together.

Poland	Ukraine
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class

**11. Let's do 'The Article Quiz':** Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

**Student A**

- 1) Which countries are hosting Euro 2012?
- 2) What is the capacity of Kiev's football stadium?
- 3) Where are the semi finals taking place?
- 4) Name the Ukrainian President.
- 5) Name the former Ukrainian Prime Minister.

**Student B**

- 1) Name the England coach.
- 2) Who is Paul Elliot?
- 3) When is Euro 2012?
- 4) What does the winner of Euro 2012 get?
- 5) How many former Euro tournaments have there been?

**12. Football phrases:** In pairs, think of ten football phrases. Use them to include in a conversation together.

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class

**13. Presentation:** In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a two minute presentation on: **Euro 2012**. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation.

**14. Let's write an e-mail:** Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **Euro 2012**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

**15. Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) Euro 2012 \_\_\_\_\_
- b) The final \_\_\_\_\_

## DISCUSSION

### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Should politics enter into sport?
- 3) What chances have England got?
- 4) Will England get past the quarter final?
- 5) Why is England so bad at penalties?
- 6) Should European politicians boycott Euro 2012?
- 7) Should the President of Ukraine immediately release Yulia Tymoshenko?
- 8) What do you think of the political situation in Ukraine?
- 9) Do you think violence and racism will occur in Ukraine or Poland? Explain.
- 10) Who is going to win Euro 2012?

### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?
- 3) Will you be watching Euro 2012?
- 4) Which team do you want to win Euro 2012?
- 5) Who is 'the favourite' team to win Euro 2012?
- 6) Which team might surprise everyone?
- 7) Will you be travelling to Poland or Ukraine to watch any games?
- 8) Why is accommodation so expensive in these countries during the tournament?
- 9) How can the tournament stop racism and violence occurring?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## SPEAKING

### Let's discuss! Euro 2012

*Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1*

Discuss the following...

20 things about Euro 2012
---------------------------

The teacher can moderate the session.

## GAP FILL: READING:

*Put the words into the gaps in the text.*

### Euro 2012

Today, let's talk about the European (1)\_\_\_\_\_ Championship that is taking place this year in Poland and Ukraine. Commonly known as *Euro 2012* the championship will bring the best European (2)\_\_\_\_\_ together for what, no doubt, will be another exciting tournament. The 2012 UEFA European Football Championship will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Championship for national European football teams organised by UEFA. This year's tournament will be between the 8<sup>th</sup> June and the 1<sup>st</sup> July. It is the first time either country has hosted the event. The (3)\_\_\_\_\_ will be between the final 16 nations. The (4)\_\_\_\_\_ of the tournament gains (5)\_\_\_\_\_ entry into the 2013 FIFA Confederations (6)\_\_\_\_\_ hosted by Brazil. Host cities in Poland for Euro 2012 are: Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw and Poznan. In Ukraine, the (7)\_\_\_\_\_ cities are: Kiev, Lvov, Donetsk and Kharkov. The semi finals will take place in Donetsk and Warsaw. The (8)\_\_\_\_\_ will take place at the Olympic Stadium (Capacity 60,000) in Kiev.

The tournament will be one of the biggest events of the year but there are fears it could be hit by racism and violence. Thousands of (1)\_\_\_\_\_ will be heading to Poland and Ukraine where racism at matches sometimes happens during (2)\_\_\_\_\_ matches. UEFA says it is working hard to make sure the tournament is a success. Paul Elliott, Kick it Out Ambassador said recently, "Should there be any racism the (3)\_\_\_\_\_ has the power to stop the (4)\_\_\_\_\_, speak to the (5)\_\_\_\_\_ announcer, to do everything possible until the situation is resolved". It will be interesting to see if European leaders will (6)\_\_\_\_\_ the tournament, especially the final, in protest at the detention of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who has been detained by her former rival and President Viktor Yanukovich. The former Prime Minister was allegedly beaten up in jail by her guards. Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry has been open in its condemnation of Germany's Angela Merkel boycotting the tournament in protest. He said, "Euro is (7)\_\_\_\_\_, not politics, it's a football championship, not a political (8)\_\_\_\_\_."

*cup*  
*football*  
*host*  
*teams*  
*winner*  
*tournament*  
*final*  
*automatic*  
*stadium*  
*league*  
*summit*  
*boycott*  
*sport*  
*referee*  
*fans*  
*game*

## GRAMMAR:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

### Euro 2012

Today, let's talk about the European Football Championship that is taking place this year in Poland and Ukraine. Commonly known (1)\_\_\_ *Euro 2012* the championship will bring the best European teams together for what, no doubt, will be another exciting tournament. (2)\_\_\_ 2012 UEFA European Football Championship will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Championship (3)\_\_\_ national European football teams organised (4)\_\_\_ UEFA. This year's tournament will be between the 8<sup>th</sup> June and the 1<sup>st</sup> July. (5)\_\_\_ is the first time either country has hosted the event. The tournament will be between the final 16 nations. The winner (6)\_\_\_ the tournament gains automatic entry into the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup hosted by Brazil. Host cities (7)\_\_\_ Poland for Euro 2012 are: Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw and Poznan. In Ukraine, the host cities are: Kiev, Lvov, Donetsk and Kharkov. The semi finals will take place in Donetsk and Warsaw. The final will take place (8)\_\_\_ the Olympic Stadium (Capacity 60,000) in Kiev.

**for**

**the**

**at**

**it**

**as**

**in**

**of**

**by**

The tournament will be one of the biggest events of the year (1)\_\_\_ (2)\_\_\_ are fears it (3)\_\_\_ be hit by racism and violence. Thousands of fans will be heading to Poland and Ukraine (4)\_\_\_ racism at matches sometimes happens during league matches. UEFA says it is working hard to make sure the tournament is a success. Paul Elliott, Kick it Out Ambassador said recently, "(5)\_\_\_ there be (6)\_\_\_ racism the referee has the power to stop the game, speak to the stadium announcer, to do everything possible until the situation is resolved". It will be interesting to see if European leaders will boycott the tournament, especially the final, in protest at the detention of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, (7)\_\_\_ has been detained by her former rival and President Viktor Yanukovich. The former Prime Minister was allegedly beaten up in jail by (8)\_\_\_ guards. Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry has been open in its condemnation of Germany's Angela Merkel boycotting the tournament in protest. He said, "Euro is sport, not politics, it's a football championship, not a political summit."

**who**

**her**

**where**

**any**

**there**

**could**

**but**

**should**

## SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	winner	11	automatic
2	ambassador	12	between
3	boycott	13	championship
4	sometimes	14	Ukraine
5	violence	15	Poland
6	detention	16	committee
7	another	17	meanwhile
8	tournament	18	squad
9	rival	19	condemnation
10	racism	20	success

### LINKS

<http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro/index.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/european-championship/2012/groups-schedule>

Note: UEFA = The Union of European Football Associations

### ANSWERS

**GAP FILL:** Euro 2012: Today, let's talk about the European **Football** Championship that is taking place this year in Poland and Ukraine. Commonly known as *Euro 2012* the championship will bring the best European **teams** together for what, no doubt, will be another exciting tournament. The 2012 UEFA European Football Championship will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Championship for national European football teams organised by UEFA. This year's tournament will be between the 8<sup>th</sup> June and the 1<sup>st</sup> July. It is the first time either country has hosted the event. The **tournament** will be between the final 16 nations. The **winner** of the tournament gains **automatic** entry into the 2013 FIFA Confederations **Cup** hosted by Brazil. Host cities in Poland for Euro 2012 are: Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw and Poznan. In Ukraine, the **host** cities are: Kiev, Lvov, Donetsk and Kharkov. The semi finals will take place in Donetsk and Warsaw. The **final** will take place at the Olympic Stadium (Capacity 60,000) in Kiev.

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