

Name: _____ Class: _____ ()

Tuesday English News Report: Broadcast Date: Nov 7th, 2017

Brazil's best women's soccer players have started a revolt

The **firing** of the first woman to lead the country's national team has **triggered** the retirement of several top players and **unleashed a torrent** of criticism against the national soccer federation over several issues related to its treatment of women.

Five players quit the program after the coach, Emily Lima, was removed last month — after less than a year in the post — in the **wake** of a series of poor results. Among those who have walked are Cristiane, a **prolific** striker and a **veteran** of four World Cups and four Olympics, and the veteran midfielder Francielle.

On Friday, the situation **escalated** when a group of former players published an open letter criticizing the federation.

“We, the players, have invested years of our own lives and all of our energy to build this team and this sport to its strength today,” read the letter, which was signed by eight former players. “Yet we, and almost all other Brazilian women, **are excluded** from the leadership and decision-making for our own team and our own sport.”

The group of players who quit said they did so because they were “exhausted from years of disrespect and lack of support,” the letter said.

While Brazil has produced some of the sport's top female stars, including Marta — a five-time world player of the year who appears to be remaining with the national team, at least for now — the women's game in the country, as it is in many other parts of the world, remains poorly promoted and lightly supported by its federation. Appearance fees for national team players remain **a bone of contention*, and women remain absent from the positions of power on the soccer's executive board (C.B.F.).

* a subject or issue over which there is continuing disagreement

“There are no meaningful pathways for former players to find their way into C.B.F. and help to run their own game,” the letter written by the players said. “Over many years we have lived and watched in despair as Brazil's women **were neglected** by C.B.F.”

The Brazilians' complaints also highlight broader sports governance issues in that country. On Thursday, the police arrested the head of Brazil's national Olympic committee amid an ongoing investigation into allegations that Rio de Janeiro secured the 2016 Games by paying bribes to International Olympic Committee voters.

**anger

The soccer federation that is the subject of women's players' ****ire** continues to be run by Marco Polo del Nero, who remains the subject of an international arrest warrant after he was indicted on corruption charges by United States authorities *****probing** corruption in FIFA, soccer's global governing body.

***investigating in depth

Questions to think about:

- What have you learnt from this article? / What is your opinion?
- Why is equality an important issue? / What can be done in sport, for example, to ensure women get equal treatment?
- The article also mentions corruption. Why do you think corruption is such a big part of sport these days? Again, what can be done to help stop corruption?
- Another issue in sport is what is known as ‘doping’, in other words, athletes taking performance enhancing drugs/medications to ensure better results/success. What is your view on this issue?



I: Vocabulary and understanding meaning: Match the meaning and/or synonym (words with a similar or the same meaning) to the words which have been highlighted in bold in the article.

Column A: Word from text	Letter	Column B: Meaning or synonym
1. fire (firing) (v)		A: make something become more serious or intense, make a problem worse
2. trigger(ed) (v)		B: an overwhelming outpouring of or reaction to something / a large amount of something
3. unleash(ed) (v)		C: following/after something, the result of something
4. torrent (n)		D: deny someone access to a place, group or privilege / leave out deliberately
5. wake (n)		E: fail to care for properly
6. prolific (adj)		F: set off something/a series of events, cause something to happen
7. veteran (n)		G: cause (a strong or violent force) to be released or become unrestrained / to let loose, for example, your feelings about something
8. escalate(d) (v)		H: dismiss someone from a job or position
9. exclude (v)		I: high-scoring
10. neglect (v)		K: a person who has a long experience in a particular field, e.g. sport

II: Usage of vocabulary: Choose the most appropriate word from the table above to fill in the missing words of the sentences below making sure your answers are grammatically correct.

1. Many people were left homeless in the _____ of the disaster. In other words, following the disaster they had no place to live.
2. He _____ for not doing his job properly. As a result, he is now unemployed.
3. The club were willing to pay a lot for the transfer of the footballer because he had been a _____ goal scorer last season.
4. The student (a) _____ often _____ from the activities of the other students in his class because the others dislike him. As a result, he feels lonely and (b) _____.
5. The man was so angry, he (a) _____ a (b) _____ of words. I thought there was going to be a fist fight. He did not hold back his feelings and the words kept pouring out without restraint.
6. Being a _____ of the sport, the footballer is still held in high esteem though he retired many years ago. He was a top footballer and still tours the world giving talks and tips on playing football.
7. The Lehman Brothers' scandal _____ the recession in 2008. The scandal sent economic markets into a tailspin. It is what started the economic downturn.
8. The problem _____, in other words, got worse, when the news went viral on social media.

Challenge of the week: Football trivia

ENGLISH CORNER CAFÉ IS ALWAYS OPEN ON A TUESDAY FOR DRINKS, SNACKS, CONVERSATION & GAMES

See Ms Roberts for prizes if you know the answers!