

Ted Lasso (2)

The Press Conference

Part 1 Comprehension *Answer these questions after you watch the video.*

1. What is the "elephant in the room"?
 - a) Ted knows nothing about football.
 - b) Rebecca has recently divorced her husband.
 - c) AFC Richmond has lost many matches recently.
2. What coaching experience does Ted have with European football?
 - a) He was a coach for a high school team.
 - b) He coached a professional team in the USA.
 - c) He coached his son's team.
 - d) None
3. What two mistakes does Ted make while talking about football?
 - a) He keeps calling it soccer.
 - b) He doesn't know how long a game is.
 - c) He forgets that football matches can end in a tie.
 - d) He doesn't know how many players are on the pitch.
4. What does Ted compliment Trent (the reporter) on?
 - a) His hair
 - b) His glasses
 - c) His polite way of speaking
5. What three pieces of information does Trent give about Ted Lasso?
 - a) He is American.
 - b) He is divorced.
 - c) This is his first time in England.
 - d) He has never coached a winning team.
 - e) He coached a second-tier amateur team.
6. Which two football players does Ted mention?
 - a) Pele
 - b) Messi
 - c) Ronaldo
 - d) Maradona
 - e) Harry Kane
 - f) David Beckham
7. Why does Rebecca think that Ted is already a success?
 - a) The team won their first match.
 - b) The team sold many tickets.
 - c) The press room is full.
8. What does Rebecca say about AFC Richmond?
 - a) She rarely watches their games.
 - b) The team has been losing money.
 - c) The team has not been successful.
9. What does Rebecca say about Ted Lasso?
 - a) He has recently won a championship.
 - b) His teams are always successful.
 - c) He does not have a CV.
10. Which team will AFC Richmond play in their next match?
 - a) Manchester United
 - b) Crystal Palace
 - c) Chelsea
11. What does Ted apologize for?
 - a) His lack of football knowledge
 - b) Rebecca's impolite speaking
 - c) Spitting on the people's stuff

Part 2 Language Review Choose the word or expression from the video that best matches the highlighted expressions.

1. Ted decides to deal with [**the issue that no one wants to mention**] right away.
2. Ted had never [**visited**] England before taking this job.
3. Rebecca accuses [**the people from her country**] of being rude and [**unfriendly**] to Ted.
4. Rebecca claims that she has [**seen**] nothing but [**very average results**] from her football team.
5. One of the reporters thinks that Rebecca is being a little [**negative**] about the team.
6. Rebecca suggests that hiring Ted may not have been such a [**crazy idea**] after all.

Part 3 Discussion Discuss these questions with your partner or group.

1. The elephant in the room is the big issue that everyone is thinking about. In this press conference, what is the elephant in the room? Do you think Ted does a good job addressing (talking about) it? What would you say if you were Ted? How would you defend your hiring?
2. Do you think the reporters were being rude to Ted, or were they doing their job properly?
3. What other questions would you ask Ted if you were a reporter at the press conference?
4. Can you think of anything that makes Ted qualified for his new job?
5. Why do you think Rebecca hired Ted?
6. Have you ever had a co-worker, boss, or teacher that seemed totally unqualified for his/her position? How did they show their incompetence? Did you try to help this person?
7. Ted spits water all over the reporters. What is an embarrassing thing that you have done in front of a large group of people?
8. Do you prefer carbonated (fizzy) water or still water (i.e. water with or without gas)? Why?

Part 4 Sentence Building Write sentences about the video clip using the words given. You can change the word form or add words, but you cannot change the word order. Use a present time frame (mainly present tenses).

E.g. Ted / surprise / fizzy / water

Ted is surprised by the fizzy water.

1. all / reporter / want / ask / Ted / question

2. Ted / admit / never / coach / football / before

3. reporter / correct / mistake / Ted / make / about / rule / football

4. Ted / compliment / one / reporter / glass

5. all / reporter / laugh / Trent / joke

6. Ted / spit / water / reporter / and / stuff

7. Rebecca / explain / why / choose / Ted / coach / team

8. she / also / point / she / witness / nothing / but / profound / mediocre / team

9. Before / leave / Ted / apologize / spit / reporter / stuff

Script

- Higgins:** So, without further ado, the new manager of AFC Richmond, Ted Lasso!
- Ted:** Okay. All right. How y'all doing? One sec. Let me just... throat got a little dry. Did not expect fizzy water there. Sorry.
- Ted:** Okay. So, hey. Why don't we just jump right in? Anybody got any questions?
- Ted:** Oh, yeah, no. Should've saw that coming. You know what? You can put your hands down. Real quick. How about I go ahead and address the larger-than-average elephant in the room. No, I have never coached the sport that you folks call football at any level.
- Man:** Jesus.
- Ted:** And heck, you could fill two Internets with what I don't know about football. But I'll tell you what I do know. I know that AFC Richmond, like any team I've ever coached, is going to go out there and give you everything they got for all four quarters.
- Man:** Halves.
- Ted:** What was that?
- Man:** Two halves.
- Ted:** Oh right. Sorry. Halves, yeah. They're going to give you everything they got for two halves, win or lose.
- Man:** Or tie.
- Ted:** Right. Y'all do ties here. Sorry, that's going to take some getting used to for me. Because back where I'm from, you try to end a game in a tie, well, that might as well be the first sign of the apocalypse.
- Higgins:** One final question.
- Ted:** How about the fellow right there in the second row. Yeah. I like your glasses.
- Trent:** Thank you. Trent Crimm, The Independent. I just want to make sure I have this right. You're an American who has never set foot in England, whose athletic success has only come at the amateur level, a second-tier one at that. And is now being charged with the leadership of a Premier League football club despite clearly possessing very little knowledge of the game.
- Ted:** You got a question in there, Trent?
- Trent:** Yeah. Is this a fucking joke?
- Man:** Can you even name any footballers?
- Ted:** Yeah. You got Ronaldo, and the fellow that bends it like himself.
- Man:** Fucking hell!
- Rebecca:** Coach Lasso. Good Lord, you must forgive my fellow countrymen. Somewhere over the last few years, we seem to have abandoned all sense of manners and hospitality. My, my, aren't you a salty bunch? But I can't remember the last time the press room was this full. Yet, here you all are. Maybe you're not such a mad notion after all.
- Rebecca:** And despite the number of you here, there is not a single person in this room who has seen Richmond play more than I have. And in all those years under the stewardship of the previous owner, I've witnessed nothing but profound mediocrity. Am I wrong?
- Man:** Well, that's a bit harsh.
- Rebecca:** Am I wrong?
- Man:** No.
- Rebecca:** Now, Coach Lasso may not have the CV that you all find acceptable, but he does have one thing this club doesn't: a trophy from this millennium. So, like it or not, Richmond are changing the way we do things. And from now on, that way is the "Lasso way." We look forward to seeing you all at our next match with Crystal Palace. Thank you so much.
- Ted:** Nice meeting y'all. And sorry for spitting on all your stuff up here.
- Rebecca:** Thank you.

Answers

Part 1

1. Ted knows nothing about football.
2. None
3. He doesn't know how long a game is.
He forgets that football matches can end in a tie.
4. His glasses
5. He is American.
This is his first time in England.
He coached a second-tier amateur team.
6. David Beckham
Ronaldo
7. The press room is full.
8. The team has not been successful.
9. He has recently won a championship.
10. Crystal Palace
11. Spitting on the people's stuff

Part 2

1. Ted decides to deal with [**the elephant in the room**] right away.
2. Ted had never [**set foot in**] England before taking this job.
3. Rebecca accuses [**her fellow countrymen**] of being both rude and [**salty**] to Ted.
4. Rebecca claims that she has [**witnessed**] nothing but [**profound mediocrity**] from her football team.
5. One of the reporter thinks that Rebecca is being a little [**harsh**] about the team.
6. Rebecca suggests that hiring Ted may not have been such a [**mad notion**] after all.

Part 4

1. All (of) the reporters want to ask Ted [questions/a question].
2. Ted admits (that) he has never coached football before.
Ted admits to having never coached football before.
3. The reporters correct the mistakes (that/which) Ted makes about the rules of football.
4. Ted compliments one of the reporters on his glasses.
Ted compliments one of the reporter's glasses.
5. All (of) the reporters laugh at Trent's joke.
6. Ted spits water [on/all over] the reporters and their stuff.
7. Rebecca explains why she chose Ted as the coach of Richmond AFC.
Rebecca explains why she chose Ted to be the coach of Richmond AFC.
Rebecca explains why she chose Ted to coach Richmond AFC.
8. She also points out (that) she has witnessed nothing but profound mediocrity from [her/the] team.
9. Before [leaving/he leaves], Ted apologizes for spitting on the reporters' stuff.
Before [leaving/he leaves], Ted apologizes for spitting on the reporters and their stuff.