

### 1. Darts

The subject of this week's lesson is darts, the popular pub game that is played by around ten per cent of British population and which has also become a highly competitive professional sport.

### Level

Upper intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level B2 and above)

### How to use the lesson

1. Ask your students to name as many indoor games or sports as they can in English. Ask them what indoor games/sports they associate with Britain. What, if anything, do they know about darts? (Pictures of darts, dartboards and darts players might be helpful at this point.) Are there any popular games in your students' country that are similar to darts in any way? If any of your students have ever played darts, ask them to describe the game to the rest of the class.

2. Give your students between five and ten minutes to read through Worksheet A, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Tell them they are going to answer a series of questions on the text, but that they shouldn't write anything down at this stage.

3. Divide the students into pairs and hand out Worksheet B. Ask them to work together to complete the different types of comprehension questions in Exercises 1 and 2.

4. Check answers in open class.

5. Next, ask the students to turn over their copies of Worksheets A and B or to hand them back to you temporarily. Keeping the students in their pairs, ask them to attempt Exercise 2 on Worksheet C, which contains the text from Worksheet A with twenty incorrect words that they have to identify and correct. The words containing the mistakes are all in bold, as are five other words that are correct. Point out that the mistakes are all grammatical or lexical, and that no correction requires them to write any additional words.

6. Check answers in open class.

## Answers:

### Exercise 1

1. D 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. F 6. F 7. F 8. T 9. F 10. T 11. D 12. T

### Exercise 2

1. Three.
2. They are the thin pieces of plastic attached to the tails of the darts, and they are important because they allow the darts to fly well.
3. Around 2.5 metres.
4. When a player has just hit the treble 20 with three consecutive darts, achieving the maximum possible score of 180.
5. It allows the darts to penetrate and yet doesn't get damaged by them.
6. The Netherlands (or Holland) and Australia.

### Exercise 3

2. prize 3. cheering 4. live 5. erupts 6. chatting 7. skills 8. compete  
10. aforementioned 11. circular 13. contested 14. in 15. tails 18. punish  
19. inaccurate 20. for 21. score 22. hitting 23. consecutive 24. roar 25. referee

**Words in bold that are correct:** 1. nicknamed 9. dominated 12. diameter  
16. penetrate 17. corresponding

## 2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/other\\_sports/darts/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/other_sports/darts/default.stm)

The darts section of the BBC Sport website, which includes photographs, videos and lots of information. Appropriate for upper intermediate level.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/general/golden-arrows-why-darts-is-booming-430643.html>

A long article (2007) from the *Independent* on 'Why darts is booming'. Challenging for upper intermediate level.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid\\_4580000/newsid\\_4587500/4587538.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_4580000/newsid_4587500/4587538.stm)

From BBC Newsround, one of four short texts (see links on right-hand side of page) on the rudiments of darts. Quite easy for upper intermediate level.

<http://www.bdodarts.com/>

The official website of the British Darts Organisation. Intermediate level and above.