

**1. Darts**

The subject of this week's lesson is darts, the popular game that is played by around six percent of the US 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. 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 or countries 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 meters
4. When a player has just hit the triple 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. Canada and the UK

**Exercise 3**

2. prize 3. cheering 4. live 5. erupts 6. casual 7. world 8. compete  
10. aforementioned 11. circular 13. contested 14. tails 16. electronic  
18. punish 19. inaccurate 20. for 21. bull's-eye 22. score 23. hitting  
24. consecutive 25. roar

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

**2. Related Websites**

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

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

The official website of the American Darts Organization (ADO), the professional body overseeing darts playing in the USA, which includes photographs, rules, news, and lots of information. Accessible to upper intermediate level.

[http://www.nicedarts.com/how\\_to\\_cricket.html](http://www.nicedarts.com/how_to_cricket.html)

An easy-to-follow, step-by-step guide to how to play different variations of darts, with illustrations. Accessible to upper intermediate level.

[http://www.skysports.com/story/0,19528,12288\\_4153997,00.html](http://www.skysports.com/story/0,19528,12288_4153997,00.html)

A British article (2008) about the American darts player Darin Young. Challenging for upper intermediate level.

<http://www.cbc.ca/sports/story/2008/01/01/part-wins.html>

An article (2008) from the Radio-Canada website about three-time PDC World Darts Championship winner, John Part. Accessible to upper intermediate level.