



Positioning Soccer Players on the Field

Watching and vocabulary lesson¹

I. Video: How to understand soccer positions

1. Watch the video about positions of soccer players on the field and match the words and phrases on the left with their endings on the right. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXJLWimxP-s> and [watch](#))

1. mark up	a. positions
2. close gaps	b. the game
3. defense	c. of the ball
4. goal scoring	d. in defense
5. open	e. the strikers
6. in possession	f. responsibilities

2. Label the players in the picture below according to the explanation given in the video.



¹ The pictures used in this lesson plan are taken with permission from <http://www.wpclipart.com>



3. Watch the video again and answer the questions below.

1. What is soccer about?
2. What are the positions of soccer players mentioned in the video?
3. What is the goalkeeper's responsibility?
4. What role can the goalkeeper play in addition to preventing the ball from getting behind the goal line?
5. What is the role of the strikers?
6. What is the other name for strikers given mentioned in the text?

II. Vocabulary

1. Look up the words in the box below in a dictionary, and then fill in the blanks in the sentences that follow.

tackling - thread in - opening up - scoring chances – win – head - dribble – intercept - pushing into – punt – jockeying – pass

1. A good striker needs to be able toat speed to create panic in the eighteen-yard box and get through the defenders of the opposing team.
2. The defenders need tothe ball before the attacking team create.....
3. When the defenders get the ball back, they mustit to the forwards quickly to start a counterattack.
4. A defending midfielder is someone with good skill at.....
5. This player knows where to position himself toballs and nip at players' heels at the right time to win the ball.
6. This player may also useto force the player out of the playing area.
7. The keeper can initiate a counterattack by delivering a goal kick or a.....
8. When this happens, the midfielder should intercept the ball andthe danger away.
9. When the midfielders start an attack, the fullbacks support them bythe space left by them.
10. The strikers must pass the ball quickly tothe ball behind the line of defense without falling into the offside trap.
11. If successful, they can capitalize on their attack, build momentum, and probably get a chance to score a goal. The key to this is throughholes in the opposing team's defense.



Answer key

I. Video: How to understand soccer positions

The video is available on Youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXJLWimxP-s> and watch

1. Watch the video about positions of soccer players on the field and match the words and phrases on the left with their endings on the right.

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|------|------|------|
| 1. e | 3. f | 5. b |
| 2. d | 4. a | 6. c |

2. Label the players in the picture below according to the explanation given in the video.



3. Watch the video again and answer the questions below.

- Soccer's all about positions, strategy, and tactics
- The goalkeeper, the defenders, the midfielders, and the strikers.
- To make sure the ball does not cross the goal line.
- He can initiate the game from his goal.
- Their role is to score goals.
- Forwards.

II. Vocabulary

1. Look up the words in the box below in a dictionary, and then fill in the blanks in the sentences that follow.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. dribble | 3. pass | 7. punt. | 11. opening up |
| 2. win / scoring chances. | 4. tackling. | 8. head | |
| | 5. intercept | 9. pushing into | |
| | 6. jockeying | 10. thread in | |