

# Calciopoli



## 1) Discussion

- a) Do you watch Italian football? Who are your favourite teams in Italy?
- b) Who are your favourite Italian players ever?
- c) Have there been any football scandals in your country?

## 2) Vocabulary

### a) Match the vocabulary to the definitions.

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|-----------------------------|---|
| 1) To Collaborate (verb)    | a) Doing something with careful and persistent effort, showing strong dedication and hard work. |
| 2) To Deduct (verb)         | b) To work together with others on a task or project.   |
| 3) Perception (noun)        | c) The way you see or understand something, your mental picture or awareness of a situation.    |
| 4) To Govern (verb)         | d) Having low confidence, hope and energy.  |
| 5) Diligently (adverb)      | e) To control, manage, or rule over a group of people.  |
| 6) Disheartened (adjective) | f) To subtract or take away, often used in the context of reducing an amount.                   |



**b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.**

- 1) In order to achieve success in football, players must \_\_\_\_\_ and work together as a team.
- 2) People think that Kai Havertz is lazy, but that's not a fair \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Coaches and managers play a crucial role as they \_\_\_\_\_ the team, making important decisions to lead them to victory.
- 4) Cristiano Ronaldo is famous for training \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) After 4 losses in a row, the team felt \_\_\_\_\_ and lacked confidence.
- 6) Because of *Financial Fair Play*, the team were \_\_\_\_\_ 20 points.



### 3) Read the article quickly and answer the question.

- a) Who were the teams involved in the Calciopoli scandal?

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#### Calciopoli

It's the summer of 2006 and Fabio Cannavaro is lifting the World Cup in Berlin as the whole of Italy celebrates. However, just a month later, celebrations would turn to shock. It was *Calciopoli*.

*Calciopoli* came to light when people discovered information through phone calls. These calls revealed that team leaders and referees were collaborating to cheat in games, giving a negative impression to Serie A, Italy's top soccer league.

Juventus faced the most severe consequences. They were relegated to Serie B, deducted 9 points, and had to return two titles. Other teams like AC Milan, Lazio, Reggina and Fiorentina also received penalties, including points deductions and financial fines. Leaders and referees were banned from participating in football.

The scandal created significant issues for Italian football. Juventus experienced financial difficulties, and talented players left the team. The global perception of Italian soccer, and people lost trust in the systems that governed the game.

Following *Calciopoli*, the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) implemented changes to improve the situation. They aimed for more honesty and took measures to prevent similar misconduct. Juventus worked diligently to return to Serie A and perform well in European competitions.

*Calciopoli* marked a challenging period for Italian football. The negative actions impacted major teams, leaving fans disheartened. Nevertheless, Italy made efforts to rectify the situation, ensuring that football became fair and



enjoyable once again. The Calciopoli story serves as a reminder that cheating is not acceptable, and we should learn from our mistakes.

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#### **4) Discussion**

- a) What do you think about the *Calciopoli* scandal?
- b) What do you think of the punishments given to the teams? Do you think they were fair?
- c) What do you think of the Italian league compared to other European leagues?

