

SPORTS AND LANGUAGES

AS THE FOOTY SEASON DRAWS TO A CLOSE AND MAKES WAY FOR A SPECTACULAR SUMMER OF SPORT, WE LOOK AT THE LANGUAGE SKILLS OF SOME SPORTING HEROES, LOCAL AND NOT SO LOCAL, AS WELL AS BRINGING YOU ALL THE VOCAB YOU NEED TO ORGANISE A KICK-ABOUT WITH YOUR NEW FRIENDS ON HOLIDAY THIS SUMMER.

JENSON BUTTON

This man seems unbeatable in this year's formula one championship. Jenson spent many of his teenage years racing in Italy. During his time there he picked up the language and used to converse with the mechanics before races.

Age: 29
Height: 1.89 m
Weight: 69 Kg
Sport: Formula 1
Languages: English, Italian



ANDY MURRAY

When Wimbledon begins, there's only one man we'll be cheering for. When he won the Madrid Masters last year Andy Murray apologised to the crowd for not being making his acceptance speech in Spanish. As a youngster he lived a year and a half in Spain and he promised his fans in Madrid that he would learn the language by next year. He has since been swatting up on his Spanish skills.

Age: 22
Height: 1.90 m
Weight: 84 Kg
Sport: Tennis
Languages: English, Spanish



ENGLISH	FRENCH	GERMAN	SPANISH
Football	le Football	der Fußball	el Fútbol
Volleyball	le Volleyball	der Volleyball	el Fútbol
Tennis	le Tennis	das Tennis	el Vóleibol
Race	la Course	das Rennen	el Tenis
Goal!	But!	Tor!	la Carrera
To run	Courir	Laufen	¡Gol!
To tackle	Plaquer	Angreifen	Correr
Do you want a game?	Tu veux jouer?	Willst du spielen?	Entrarle a
Foul!	Faute!	Foul!	¿Quieres jugar?
Shoot!	Tirer!	Schießen!	Foul!
Catch it!	Attrape!	Fasse es!	Disparar!
			Agarrala!



DALE BENKENSTEIN

After growing up in South Africa, Durham Cricket Club's star all-rounder speaks both English and the South African language Afrikaans, he has played for Durham and South Africa and has an average batting score of 46.39 in first class cricket.

Age: 34
Sport: Cricket
Role: Batsman and Bowler
Languages: English, Afrikaans

Did you know? Afrikaans is a language spoken in five African countries including South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. Despite its name it is actually derived from Dutch and sounds very similar.



JONNY WILKINSON

After 12 years of entertaining the North East Jonny has finally moved away to start afresh in Toulon, France. His move outlines the importance of languages in sport as Jonny's French held him in good stead letting him converse confidently with the French media on arriving in the south of France.

Age: 30
Height: 1.78 m
Weight: 88 Kg
Sport: Rugby
Position: Fly Half
Languages: English, French

Did you know? Jonny has said if he ever went back to university it would be to do a language degree in Spanish and French.

