

# Conversation on the Final Exam

## Topic Sports

### RECORDING HANDOUT

To practice more speaking about the final exam topic Sports (Part I Speaking Exam), listen to the discussion of Bridge writers talking about their favourite sports.

Before listening, try to answer the questions below to see how sporty you are and look at the vocabulary and grammar that you will come across while listening to the recording.

### SPORTS & YOU

- ⇒ Do you prefer watching or playing sports?
- ⇒ What sports do you play if any?
- ⇒ Do you think parents put too much pressure on their children to be good at sport?
- ⇒ Is there a particular sport you'd like to try, or learn more about?

### VOCABULARY

**per se** – from the Latin meaning by itself

**sneakers** – sports shoes (AmE), trainers (BrE)

**Australia -rules football** – a version of football, similar to American football, played by two teams of 18 players. The object of the game is to kick the ball between longer posts to score a goal, which equals six points

**high jump** – there are three main techniques for going over the bar. The most frequent, Fosbury flop, in which you jump off the stronger leg and throw yourself backwards, was named after Dick Fosbury, who popularized it. The older straddle involves jumping with your knees bent and the scissors technique in which you jump vertically while your legs move like scissors over the bar

### GRAMMAR

**I Used to**

**I jump less than I used to.**

When we say: **I +USED+TO-infinitive**, we talk about things which we did in the past but don't do anymore. "I used to run long distance competitively." Or we can use the phrase to describe some past state, e.g. "I used to be fat."

The structure consists of **the Use** in the past simple and to-infinitive:

"I used to eat lots of sweets when I was young."

Question: "Did you use to eat lots of sweets?"

Negative: "I didn't use to eat lots of sweets."

In this sentence the verb **to USE** works as an auxiliary verb and doesn't have the meaning to apply.

### LANGUAGE POINT

**To play sports or To do sports?**

When using the word 'sport' we can use either 'play' or 'do'. Both 'I play sport' and 'I do sport' are correct and mean the same thing. The difference between using 'do' and 'play' is whether the sport is an activity or a game. For example, you use 'do' with the words gymnastics, yoga, ballet, weightlifting, aerobics, archery, athletics, wrestling or martial arts. With the exception of the last two, there is no direct competition in these activities and when you do have competitions, points are awarded by judges. We use 'play' with the words badminton, tennis, football, hockey, volleyball and basketball. As you can see, all these sports have rules and you always compete against another team or player.

**Now listen to the recording posted below.**