

English for football – week 17

Grudge Match

This week's English for football is **grudge match**. To **hold a grudge** is to have a bad feeling against someone because of something that has happened in the past. Of course, in football a lot of history builds up between clubs and if there has been some bad feeling in a game then the next time the teams meet the game becomes a **grudge match**. Examples of **grudge matches** this week include Porto against Chelsea. Of course, Mourinho used to be the manager of Porto and when he left he took some key players and staff: some of the Porto fans have not forgiven him.

A **grudge match** with a longer history is Real Madrid versus Bayern Munich. The Spanish side knocked Bayern out of the Champion's League twice in 2001 and 2004, while Bayern thrashed Madrid 4-1 and 4-0 in 2000. To this list we can add Manchester United versus Lille after their bad-tempered game this week. They are sure to **hold a grudge against** each other. The second leg will definitely be a physical game.

Grudge match.