

English for Football – week 17

Promotion race

This week's English for football is **to come off the bench**. An easy phrase and one used when a substitute **comes off the bench**, they were not a starting member, and have an impact on the game, they change the game usually in a positive way. The **bench** literally refers to the seats - it used to be a long seat or bench - where players not in the starting eleven sit. You often hear this phrase when a substitute **comes off the bench** and scores a goal, or helps their side by setting up a winning goal. They are often called 'super subs'. We have already heard how two players **came off the bench** in the Portsmouth v Blackburn game and scored. Other examples of super subs who have **come off the bench** include Ole Gunnar Solskjaer for Manchester United, who scored the winner in the Champions League final in 1999 in extra time. **To come off the bench.**