

The 7 Stages of Management

(February 12th 2009)

Pre-Listening / Background information

So, on languagecaster's main report this week we take a look at some of the language used to describe the life of a football manager.

A. Main Idea

Listen to the whole report put the following headings in the correct order.

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------------------|
| | | |
| Stage 1 | A | Trouble ahead |
| Stage 2 | B | Round again |
| Stage 3 | C | Good bye |
| Stage 4 | D | Managerial merry-go-round |
| Stage 5 | E | Getting the job |
| Stage 6 | F | Being in charge |
| Stage 7 | G | Applying for a job |

B. Main Idea

Listen to the whole report and put the following expressions under the correct stage.

Trainer | first team coach | To be linked with the post | a pay-out clause
become a target | crisis talks | sacked | paying the price | dealing with agents
results don't go your way | a dead man walking | got the boot | a break from the game

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| | | |
| Stage 1 | A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> swapping jobs |
| Stage 2 | B | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> expressing an interest in the position |
| Stage 3 | C | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gaffer |
| Stage 4 | D | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a honeymoon period |
| Stage 5 | E | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> speculation is rife |
| Stage 6 | F | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the hot seat |
| Stage 7 | G | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rule out the cut and thrust |

C. Comprehension

Listen to the whole report and answer the following questions.

1. What is the connection between Shakespeare and this report?
2. What is a merry-go-round?
3. What is a CV?
4. What does the back pages of a newspaper refer to?
5. What kind of tone does the report take?

D. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the final part of the report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase.

But then results don't go your way and your (1) _____ is on the back pages of the papers again, but this time with a picture of you looking (2) _____ sad. Speculation is rife and rumours abound as others on the merry-go-round sense an (3) _____. You meet the owners for crisis talks as there are suggestions that you have lost the dressing room, the players have little or no (4) _____ for you and then, before you know it, you have become a dead man walking.

And then just as you are getting used to the hot seat, you have to go. You are (4) _____, sacked, fired, dismissed. You have got the boot for poor results and you are paying the price. But you're not really as you (5) _____ a multi-million pound pay out in compensation.

You decide to take a break from the game but you do not rule out a return at some stage in the future. And then (6) _____ your name is back in the frame for another post. Initially, you distance yourself from it, dismissing it as mere speculation. But you miss the cut and thrust of the day-to day challenges of the Premier League and you (7) _____ you cannot turn down the opportunity of managing once again. And before you know it, you're on the merry-go-round once more.

The 7 Stages of Management

ANSWERS

(February 12th 2009)

A. Main Idea

Listen to the whole report put the following headings in the correct order.

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------------------|
| | | |
| Stage 1 | A | Managerial merry-go-round |
| Stage 2 | B | Applying for a job |
| Stage 3 | C | Getting the job |
| Stage 4 | D | Being in charge |
| Stage 5 | E | Trouble ahead |
| Stage 6 | F | Good bye |
| Stage 7 | G | Round again |

B. Main Idea

Listen to the whole report and put the following expressions under the correct stage.

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| Stage 1 | A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> swapping jobs |
| Stage 2 | B | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> be linked with the post become a target expressing an interest in the position |
| Stage 3 | C | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> first team coach trainer gaffer a pay-out clause |
| Stage 4 | D | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> dealing with agents a honeymoon period |
| Stage 5 | E | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> results don't go your way Speculation is rife crisis talks a dead man walking |
| Stage 6 | F | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the hot seat sacked got the boot paying the price |
| Stage 7 | G | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a break from the game rule out the cut and thrust |

C. Comprehension

Listen to the whole report and answer the following questions.

1. What is the connection between Shakespeare and this report?
Shakespeare's quote was used to describe the life of a football manager
2. What is a merry-go-round?
A fairground attraction or ride
3. What is a CV?
It is a curriculum vitae or resume
4. What does the back pages of a newspaper refer to?
This is where the main stories of the sports world appear (esp. tabloids)
5. What kind of tone does the report take?
Somewhat humorous

D. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the final part of the report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase. Then write the meaning of the word.

But then results don't go your way and your (1) **name** is on the back pages of the papers again, but this time with a picture of you looking (2) **rather** sad. Speculation is rife and rumours abound as others on the merry-go-round sense an (3) **opportunity**. You meet the owners for crisis talks as there are suggestions that you have lost the dressing room, the players have little or no (4) **respect** for you and then, before you know it, you have become a dead man walking.

And then just as you are getting used to the hot seat, you have to go. You are (4) **out of a job**, sacked, fired, dismissed. You have got the boot for poor results and you are paying the price. But you're not really as you (5) **receive** a multi-million pound pay out in compensation.

You decide to take a break from the game but you do not rule out a return at some stage in the future. And then (6) **suddenly** your name is back in the frame for another post. Initially, you distance yourself from it, dismissing it as mere speculation. But you miss the cut and thrust of the day-to-day challenges of the Premier League and you (7) **feel** you cannot turn down the opportunity of managing once again. And before you know it, you're on the merry-go-round once more.

Transcript

Now as we have already mentioned, football managers have been in the news this week with some high-profile sackings and plenty of gossip surrounding possible new appointments. So, on languagecaster's main report this week we take a look at some of the language used to describe the life of a football manager.

'All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players' is taken from Shakespeare's play *As You Like It* in which the character Jaques introduces the seven stages of man. Here though, with apologies to the great writer, are the seven stages of being a football manager.

Stage 1: Managerial merry-go-round

Getting a job as a football manager is not such an easy prospect as it seems that the same old faces are always involved. This is known as the managerial merry-go-round with bosses never really leaving football but seemingly just swapping jobs. Therefore, getting onto this merry-go-round is your first priority and to do so you need to read the job advertisements in the newspapers. Or more specifically, the football gossip on the back pages.

Stage 2: Applying for a job

Of course you need to send in a CV but before you do that you need to be linked with the post or become a target for the club. If you see your name written with these phrases then you can improve your job chances by expressing an interest in the position

Stage 3: Getting the job

Congratulations, you have been appointed as first team coach, or manager, or trainer or gaffer or whatever, you have the job. You have succeeded the previous incumbent and finally you can lead the team. You are in charge. Don't forget to sign a contract and make sure there is a pay-out clause, just in case things don't go as planned. You've made it. You're on the managerial merry-go-round.

Stage 4: Being in charge

Now you are in charge what is it you have to do? Well, be responsible for all sorts of jobs, including choosing tactics and players, dealing with agents, transfers and the media and of course, keeping an eye out for a new job. Invariably the start of your tenure is a good one as players try harder and a sense of hope surrounds the club and this leads to what is known as a honeymoon period when results improve and everyone loves you.

Stage 5: Trouble ahead

But then results don't go your way and your name is on the back pages of the papers again, but this time with a picture of you looking rather sad. Speculation is rife and rumours abound as others on the merry-go-round sense an opportunity. You meet the owners for crisis talks as there are suggestions

that you have lost the dressing room, the players have little or no respect for you and then, before you know it, you have become a dead man walking.

Stage 6. Good bye

And then just as you are getting used to the hot seat, you have to go. You are out of a job, sacked, fired, dismissed. You have got the boot for poor results and you are paying the price. But you're not really as you receive a multi-million pound pay out in compensation.

Stage 7. Round again

You decide to take a break from the game but you do not rule out a return at some stage in the future. And then suddenly your name is back in the frame for another post. Initially, you distance yourself from it, dismissing it as mere speculation. But you miss the cut and thrust of the day-to day challenges of the Premier League and you feel you cannot turn down the opportunity of managing once again. And before you know it, you're on the merry-go-round once more.