

5A COMMUNICATIVE What a cheat!

Student A

- a** Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple, past perfect, or past continuous.

Did he cheat?

In the autumn of 2008, Nelson Piquet Jr. ¹ found (find) himself in the middle of one of sport's greatest controversies – had he or hadn't he deliberately crashed his car during the Singapore Grand Prix?

Piquet Jr. ² _____ (form) part of the Renault Formula 1 team which also ³ _____ (include) the Spanish driver Fernando Alonso. According to Piquet, the day before the race, while he ⁴ _____ (prepare) to drive, two senior Renault F1 directors asked to speak to Piquet Jr. He went to see them in their offices, and as soon as he ⁵ _____ (sit down), the two directors took out a map of the Singapore circuit. They then ⁶ _____ (show) him the exact corner on the map where they wanted him to crash his car, and the exact moment when they wanted it to happen. The directors ⁷ _____ (choose) this corner because they knew rescue teams couldn't get to this part of the track quickly, so all the drivers would have to slow down. Piquet agreed to 'sacrifice'

his race so that his teammate, Alonso, could win.

While Piquet ⁸ _____ (drive) around the circuit for the 14th time, he

⁹ _____ (crash) his car. This allowed Alonso to make an early pit stop and ¹⁰ _____ (give) him an advantage. After Piquet crashed, Alonso ¹¹ _____ (overtake) the other drivers and ¹² _____ (go) on to win the race.

In 2009, after Piquet ¹³ _____ (leave) Renault, there was an investigation. Piquet admitted that he ¹⁴ _____ (crash) his car on purpose under instruction from Renault. At first, Renault ¹⁵ _____ (accuse) Piquet of lying, but finally they ¹⁶ _____ (admit) their guilt.



- b** Read the story again and remember it. In your own words, tell **B** about Nelson Piquet Jr.

This happened to Nelson Piquet Jr. in 2008. He was part of...

- c** Ask **B** *Who do you think is telling the truth, Nelson Piquet Jr. or Renault Formula 1?*

Student B

- a** Put the verbs in brackets in the past simple, past perfect, or past continuous.

Blood money

One of the greatest sporting scandals ¹ happened (happen) in a Rugby Union match in 2009. The scandal involved a player, and the club's director and physiotherapist.

On 12th April 2009, the English team Harlequins ² _____ (play) against the Irish team Leinster in a Heineken Cup match. The match wasn't going very well for Harlequins and they ³ _____ (lose).

Five minutes before the match ⁴ _____ (finish), one of the Harlequins players called Tom Williams came off the pitch because he ⁵ _____ (bleed) heavily from his mouth.

The coach substituted him with a star player who ⁶ _____ (be) injured earlier in the match but who was now well enough to play.

While Williams ⁷ _____ (walk) off, an assistant rushed to help him. However, the doctor from the Leinster team ⁸ _____ (notice) that Williams ⁹ _____ (smile) at his team before he came off the pitch.



Later there was an investigation which discovered that the blood coming from Williams's mouth was not real – it was fake blood. Before the match, Williams ¹⁰ _____ (put) a fake blood capsule in his sock and then bit it so that the coach could make a 'tactical substitution' when the team was losing. Apparently, they ¹¹ _____ (use) this 'technique' in four previous matches.

Leinster ¹² _____ (win) the game 6–5, Harlequins were fined £260,000 and the club's director and physiotherapist were banned from rugby for three years. Williams couldn't play for four months.

- b** Read the story again and remember it. In your own words, tell **A** about Harlequins.

This happened in a rugby match in 2009. The team, Harlequins, were playing...

- c** Ask **A** *Do you think the punishments given to Harlequins and Tom Williams were fair?*