



# READ IT!

Try a Reading task with your class



Click to activate sound  
after downloading the pdf  
on your computer



**Turn the sound on!**



Here is a  
multiple matching  
reading task  
(CEFR level B2)

A list of 10 questions to  
match to ...



1 text (4 separate  
sections A-D)

or 4 short texts (A-D) on  
one topic



## Rising Star

### Part 7

You are going to read a newspaper article about a young professional footballer. For questions 43 – 52, choose from the sections (A – D). The sections may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

### Which paragraph

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| states how surprised the writer was at Duncan's early difficulties?                  | <input type="text" value="43"/> |
| says that Duncan sometimes seems much more mature than he really is?                 | <input type="text" value="44"/> |
| describes the frustration felt by Duncan's father?                                   | <input type="text" value="45"/> |
| says that Duncan is on course to reach a high point in his profession?               | <input type="text" value="46"/> |
| suggests that Duncan caught up with his team-mates in terms of physical development? | <input type="text" value="47"/> |
| explains how Duncan was a good all-round sportsperson?                               | <input type="text" value="48"/> |
| gives an example of how Gavin reassured his son?                                     | <input type="text" value="49"/> |
| mentions Duncan's current club's low opinion of him at one time?                     | <input type="text" value="50"/> |
| mentions a personal success despite a failure for the team?                          | <input type="text" value="51"/> |
| explains how Duncan and his father are fulfilling a similar role?                    | <input type="text" value="52"/> |

[View the task here.](#)



*Margaret Garely goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.*

- A** It's my first time driving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's rejections in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.
- B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14 year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and wasn't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'
- C** Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play QPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance.' Gavin points out that it can be beneficial to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. 'A couple of years ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, "Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you." If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a lot more.'
- D** Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to ambitious young teenagers who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old head on young shoulders. Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And fame has clearly not gone to his head; it would be hard to meet a more likeable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.

---

## What is the challenge of this task?

**The text is difficult to read:  
too long, language too complex**

The text has lots of questions: locate info throughout the text; time pressure

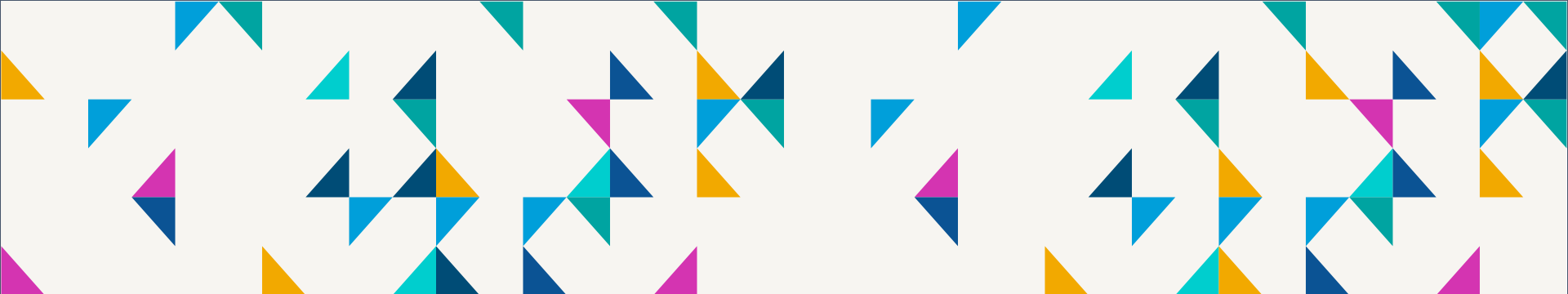
Not really. The other texts in the Reading exam use more complex language, or the questions are trickier.

---

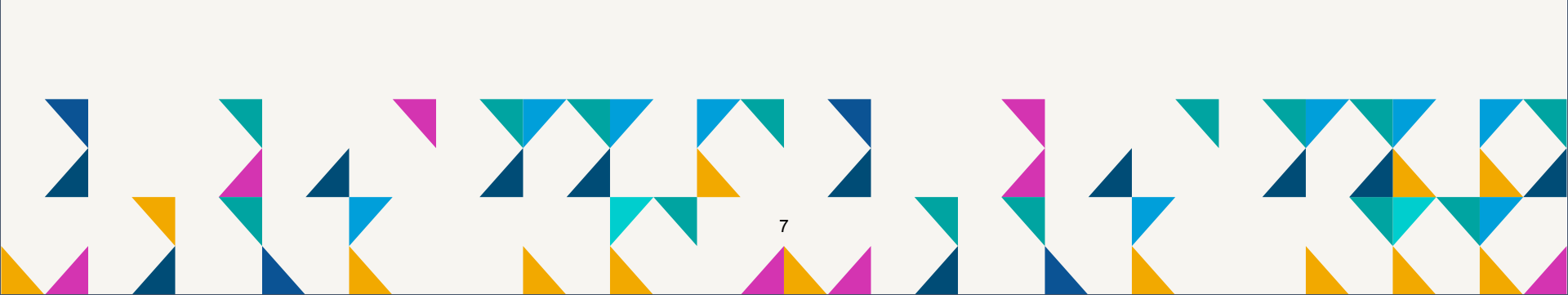
## What is the challenge of this task?

The text is difficult to read:  
too long, language too complex

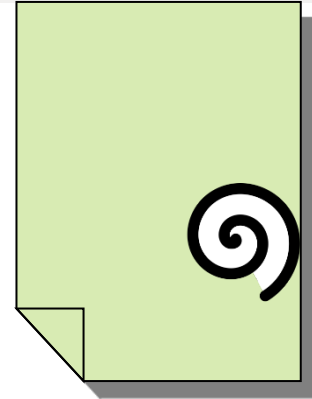
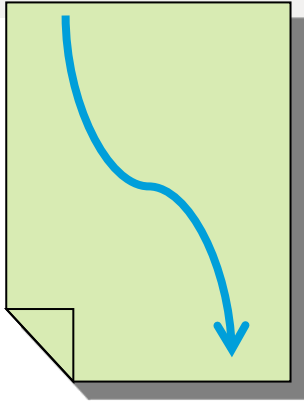
**The text has lots of questions: locate info  
throughout the text; time pressure**



That's right! Other tasks keep students busy understanding meaning. This task keeps them busy locating information scattered about the text(s).

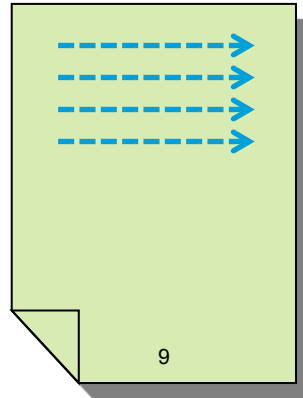
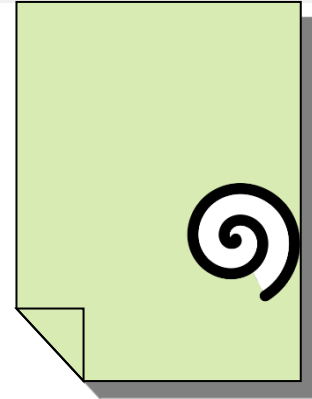
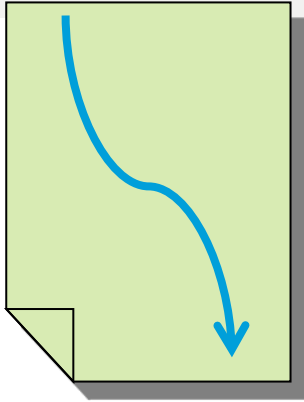


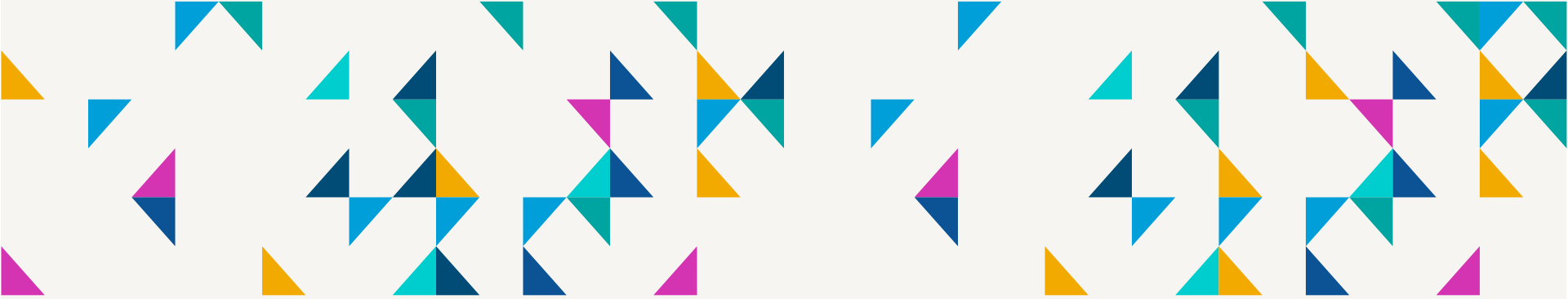
## Reading strategies: skimming, scanning



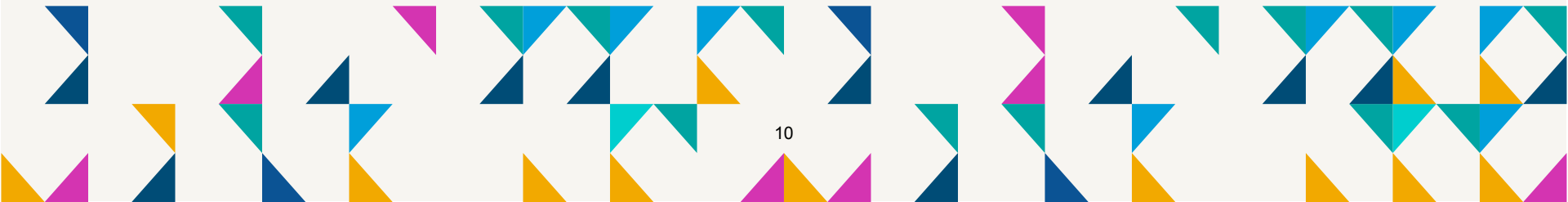


## Skimming? Scanning?





Try it in your English class!





## Step by step

Before text to students:

*Predict!*

Then:

Hand out the text without the questions, page face down on the students' desks.

## Rising Star

*Margaret Garely goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.*

- A** It's my first time driving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's rejections in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.
- B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14 year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and wasn't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'
- C** Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play QPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance.' Gavin points out that it can be beneficial to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. 'A couple of years ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, 'Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you.' If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a lot more.'
- D** Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to ambitious young teenagers who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old head on young shoulders. Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And fame has clearly not gone to his head; it would be hard to meet a more likeable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.



## Step by step

*Scan time!*

Tell students they have **20 seconds** to find and underline all proper names in the text. Start the timer, students can turn the page face up and start searching in the text.

Next, tell students they have **60 seconds** to find out what each name refers to. (Who is Duncan, who is Gavin etc)

## Rising Star

*Margaret Garely goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.*

- A** It's my first time driving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's rejections in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.
- B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14 year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and wasn't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'
- C** Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play QPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance.' Gavin points out that it can be beneficial to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. 'A couple of years ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, "Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you." If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a lot more.'
- D** Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to ambitious young teenagers who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old head on young shoulders. Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And fame has clearly not gone to his head; it would be hard to meet a more likeable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.



## Step by step

Now, tell students they have **20 seconds** to find all numbers in the text.

Next, tell students they have **60 seconds** to find out what each number refers to. (is it an age, whose age, is it a year etc)

## Rising Star

*Margaret Garely goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.*

- A** It's my first time driving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's rejections in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.
- B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14 year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and wasn't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'
- C** Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play QPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance.' Gavin points out that it can be beneficial to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. 'A couple of years ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, "Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you." If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a lot more.'
- D** Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to ambitious young teenagers who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old head on young shoulders. Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And fame has clearly not gone to his head; it would be hard to meet a more likeable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.



## Step by step

### *Skim time!*

Tell students they have **20 seconds** to provide section A with a heading.

Possible heading for A: *Duncan's life choices / Duncan's rise to fame*

## Rising Star

*Margaret Garely goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.*

- A** It's my first time driving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's rejections in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.
- B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14 year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and wasn't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'
- C** Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play QPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance.' Gavin points out that it can be beneficial to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. 'A couple of years ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, "Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you." If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a lot more.'
- D** Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to ambitious young teenagers who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old head on young shoulders. 'Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And fame has clearly not gone to his head; it would be hard to meet a more likeable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.'



## Step by step

Repeat skimming for sections B, C, D.

Possible headings:

*B: Father tells of early difficulties*

*C: Duncan's beginnings with Chelsea*

*D: Duncan's development till now*

## Rising Star

*Margaret Garely goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.*

- A** It's my first time driving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's rejections in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.
- B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14 year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and wasn't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'
- C** Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play QPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance.' Gavin points out that it can be beneficial to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. 'A couple of years ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, "Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you." If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a lot more.'
- D** Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to ambitious young teenagers who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old head on young shoulders. Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And fame has clearly not gone to his head; it would be hard to meet a more likeable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.



# Step by step

## Question time!

Now hand out / let students see the questions too. Have them read the questions. Collect some key words, e.g. *surprised* (43), *frustration* (45), *physical development* (47) etc.

Elicit from students other ways of expressing the key words.

The wording of the questions **paraphrases** the statements in the text.

### Which paragraph

states how surprised the writer was at Duncan's early difficulties?

says that Duncan sometimes seems much more mature than he really is?

describes the frustration felt by Duncan's father?

says that Duncan is on course to reach a high point in his profession?

suggests that Duncan caught up with his team-mates in terms of physical development?

explains how Duncan was a good all-round sportsperson?

gives an example of how Gavin reassured his son?

mentions Duncan's current club's low opinion of him at one time?

mentions a personal success despite a failure for the team?

explains how Duncan and his father are fulfilling a similar role?

### Rising Star

Margaret Gairley goes to meet Duncan Williams, who plays for Chelsea Football Club.

**A** It's my first time diving to Chelsea's training ground and I turn off slightly too early at the London University playing fields. Had he accepted football's restraints in his early teenage years, it is exactly the sort of ground Duncan Williams would have found himself running around on at weekends. At his current age of 18, he would have been a bright first-year undergraduate mixing his academic studies with a bit of football, rugby and cricket, given his early talent in all these sports. However, Duncan undoubtedly took the right path. Instead of studying, he is sitting with his father Gavin in one of the interview rooms at Chelsea's training base reflecting on Saturday's match against Manchester City. Such has been his rise to fame that it is with some disbelief that you listen to him describing how his career was nearly all over before it began.

**B** Gavin, himself a fine footballer – a member of the national team in his time – and now a professional coach, sent Duncan to three professional clubs as a 14-year-old, but all three turned him down. 'I worked with him a lot when he was around 12, and it was clear he had fantastic technique and skill. But then the other boys shot up in height and he didn't. But I was still upset and surprised that no team seemed to want him, that they couldn't see what he might develop into in time. When Chelsea accepted him, as a junior, it was made clear to him that this was more of a last chance than a new beginning. They told him he had a lot of hard work to do and weren't part of their plans. Fortunately, that summer he just grew and grew, and got much stronger as well.'

Duncan takes up the story: 'The first half of that season I played in the youth team. I got lucky – the first-team manager came to watch us play GPR, and though we lost 3-1, I had a really good game. I moved up to the first team after that performance. Gavin points out that it can be better to be smaller and weaker when you are developing – it forces you to learn how to keep the ball better, how to use 'quick feet' to get out of tight spaces. A couple of weeks ago, Duncan would run past an opponent as if he wasn't there but then the other guy would close in on him. I used to say to him, 'Look, if you can do that now, imagine what you'll be like when you're 17, 18 and you're big and quick and they won't be able to get near you.' If you're a smaller player, you have to use your brain a bit more.'

Not every kid gets advice from an ex-England player over dinner, nor their own private training sessions. Now Duncan is following in Gavin's footsteps. He has joined a national scheme where people like him give advice to amateur young players who are hoping to become professionals. He is an old hand on young shoulders. Yet he's also like a young kid in his enthusiasm. And he's not clearly not gone to his head, it would be hard to meet a more likable, humble young man. So will he get to play for the national team? 'One day I'd love to, but when that is, it is for somebody else to decide.' The way he is playing, that won't be long.



---

## Monitor students while answering the matching questions

Set no time limit ( if it's their first go at such a task), but you may tell them that the first to be ready will get a prize.

Answering the questions might take about 10 minutes.

Conclude: ask how they read an important email versus a timetable for public transport.



reading the text again and again for each question



trying to jump to one particular section where they expect to find the answer

---

## To sum up

Training for multiple matching reading tasks involves lead-in stages

Work on text:

Scanning (quick spotting)

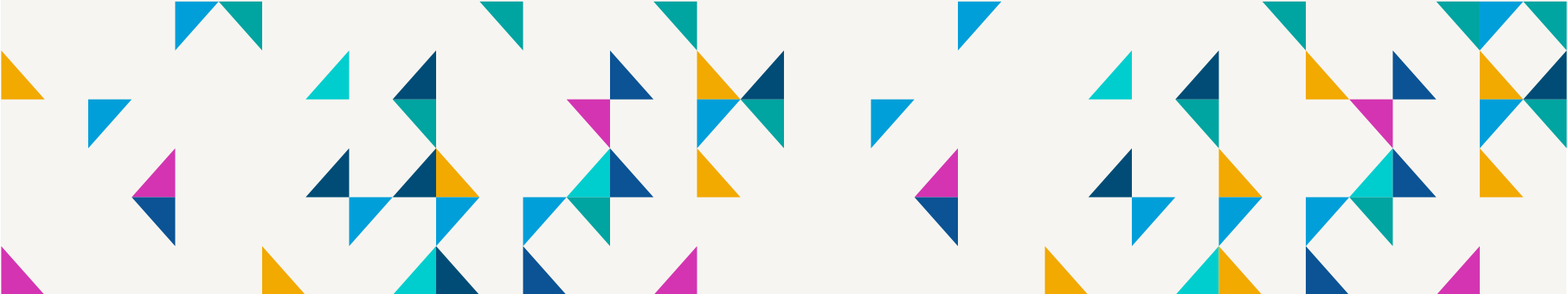
Skimming (text map)

Work on the questions (targeted search)

Practising multiple matching reading tasks helps develop the following key competences:

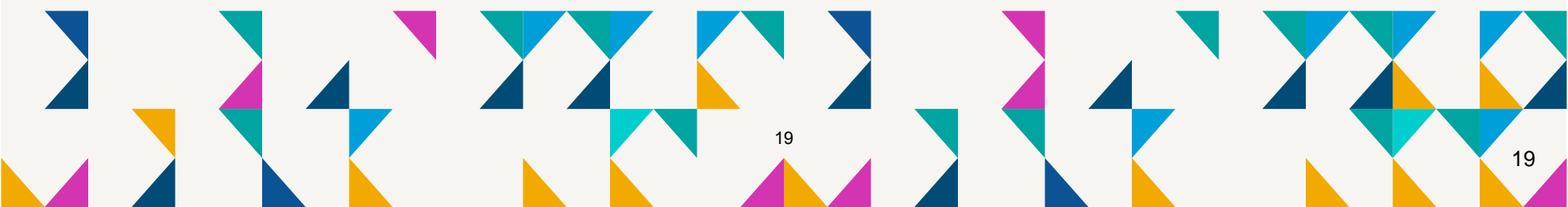
Speedy reading (skimming - for gist, scanning - for specific information)

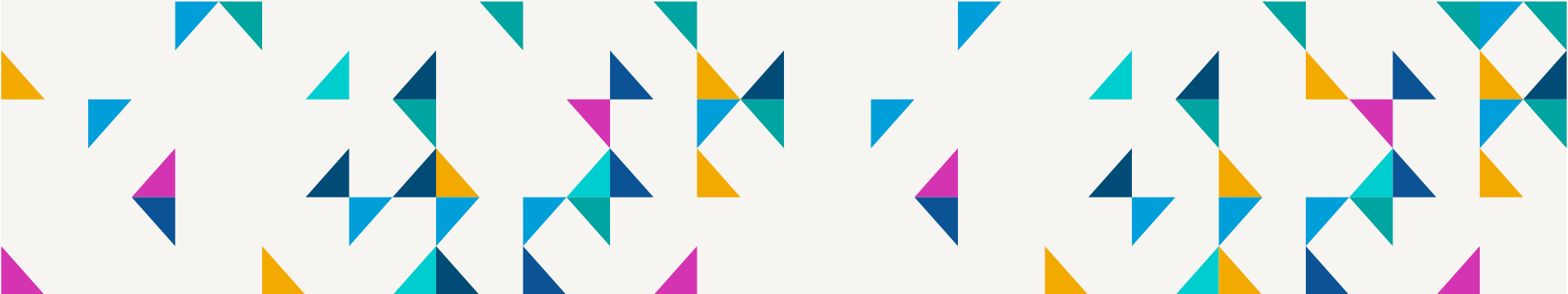
Paraphrasing (synonyms, examples of a general concept etc, syntactic structures)



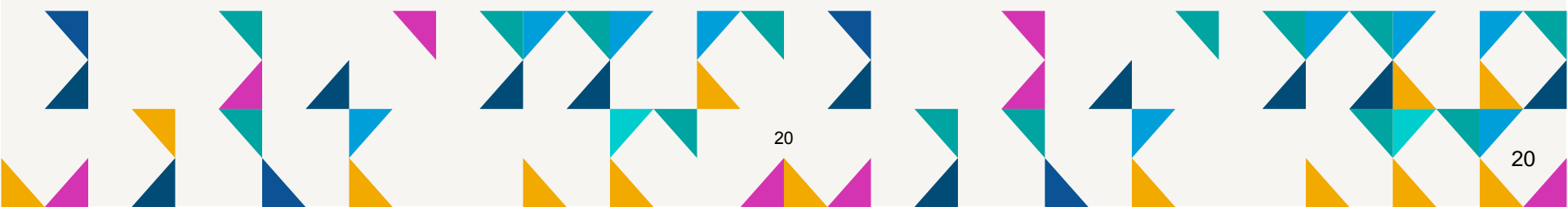
Try it in your next English lesson!

For the text and concise teacher's notes click here.





If you prefer to use the task at level C1, you  
can find it here.



# READ IT!

Visit our website for exam materials, teacher seminars, testimonials, and much more:

[www.cambridgeenglish.org/de](http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/de)

[www.cambridgeenglish.org/at](http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/at)

**This presentation is part of our  
Try-It! programme for English  
teachers**

