



When Kamal started for school today, he saw a number of people going in groups. He followed them and also reached the ground, behind the school. All over the ground as well as in the middle, there were lime-marks. There were many people in the middle. Some were doing exercises, some were kicking a ball and still some others were stopping a ball. Some people were standing with a cloth outside the lines. At that time, a man standing in the middle of the ground, blew whistle. With this, everything stopped. All the people came and stood in rows.

The whistle-man was standing in the middle of the ground near the white line. When Kamal looked around, he saw two poles with nets. He started counting the persons standing in rows on either side. There were 11 persons on either side. All the 11 persons of either side were wearing the same dresses. But one man looked different. Meanwhile, everyone started shouting and clapping. Kamal also started shouting.



The whistle-man took one person from either side to some distance. Then he tossed something. Kamal could not understand anything. But suddenly the people of one side started jumping. Then all the persons on both sides scattered. Then, the whistle blew and they started to kick the ball. The noise grew.

Kamal also started jumping and shouting. Meanwhile, someone kicked the ball and it went into the net. A boy standing near Kamal started shouting ‘goal-goal’ Kamal also started shouting with him. But this time less people shouted. Some people were clapping. The player who scored the goal and his teammates were jumping and dancing. On the other hand, some people were silent and looked sad. The people standing near Kamal started to stare at him and other boys.

Suddenly, Kamal got a slap on his back. It was painful. He looked back and found Mansaram. Mansaram said, “Why do you clap when your team is defeated?”

Kamal could not understand anything -

“What team, whose team,

What defeat ?” He said -

“I do not know”.



Mansaram explained. This football match is being played between Badgaon and us. Our team is wearing yellow dress. There are 11 players in it. The man standing near the net with a yellow shirt is Sohan. He is our goalkeeper. His job is to stop the ball from going into the nets. The whistle-man is referee. Remaining 11 players belong to Badgaon team. In the mean time, the shout started going up. With this, Mansaram also kept saying, “Look at them; Our players are taking the ball to the Badgaon side. Now, the goal is imminent. But the ball went outside the line made all around the ground. Mansaram said, “They have kicked the ball out to prevent a goal. Now, our players will be getting throw-in”.



Look there, Rehman threw the ball. Ramesh, kicked the ball to the goalpost. Oh! Sharif has the ball and he has to beat the goalkeeper only. He kicked and the goal is scored.....”

Kamal saw everyone was jumping and the ball went into the net.

Kamal was feeling hungry. So, he proceeded to his house slowly. He could hear the rising and falling noise from behind. The sounds goal-goal were coming to his ears constantly.

Kamal reached his house slowly. He also thought of playing football in the school the next day.

**What did we learn?**

**Oral**

1. Why did Mansaram slap on Kamal's back?
2. How many players are there in a football team?

**Written**

1. Have you ever played a match? Write about it. If you haven't played any, then write about any match you have seen.
2. What the whistle-man would have tossed. Why did the members of one team start jumping?
3. Which sport do you like the most? How is it played? Write it in your notebook.
4. Do you think Sharif knows how to play football. What are the facts of the lesson that give you evidences for this?

**Learning from Surroundings**

1. Ask your teacher about football and find out some more information from the books available in your school library.
2. What are the games in your area which are played on various occasions in your locality? Make a list of them.