

## Sports

### *Simple Past vs. Present Perfect*

#### 9:30-9:40 Ice Breaker

- What was the best thing that happened this last week?
- What was the worst thing that happened this last week?



Sports are an important part of many different cultures around the world. Many people love to play a sport in their free time or watch a game on television during the weekend. Even people who do not play or watch sports often find themselves cheering for their home country during the Olympics or the World Cup. In this lesson, we will explore some of the ways we encounter sports in our lives and explore some of Chicago's sports teams as well.

#### 9:40-10:00 Vocabulary and Conversation

- decade: a period of 10 years
- Super Bowl: the annual championship game of the National Football League
- unique: very special or unusual
- teamwork: people working together as a team to do something
- Olympics: a series of international athletic contests held in a different country once every four years



*Can you name the different sports this equipment is used in?*

**Conversation:** (*Tutors, feel free to bring ticket stubs, baseball caps, or anything else related to sporting events.*)

Sue: Hi Jenny. How was your weekend?

Beth: It was so much fun! My son had a soccer game on Saturday morning. He played very well and his team won the game.

Sue: That is excellent! I loved playing soccer when I was a little girl, but now I'm more into tennis. I have been playing tennis for almost a **decade**.

Beth: Tennis is such good exercise. I tried to play it, but I'm not very good. I'd rather simply watch most sports on my television than play them. However, I'll occasionally play a round of golf.

Sue: I like watching sports on television too. Last year we watched the **Super Bowl** with some friends. I loved watching both the game and the commercials!

Beth: They always have some funny commercials for the Super Bowl. Have you had the chance to go downtown to watch any games in person?

Sue: No, we haven't been to a game yet.

Beth: Well, would you want to go with us sometime this spring to see the Cubs play? I have been a Cubs fan for several years now.

Sue: That would be great! I hear their stadium is really unique. It's one of the oldest baseball parks in all of America. You can even buy tickets to watch the game from the roof of some nearby buildings, right?

Beth: Yes, but those tickets are more expensive. My husband and I went last year, but we prefer to sit in the stadium.

Sue: Thanks for the advice. When it gets closer to baseball season, we'll buy some tickets and plan our day downtown.

Beth: That sounds great. I'll look forward to it!

### 10:00-10:20 Discussion

Here are some questions about sports. Discuss them together as a group. It's not necessary to discuss all the questions; choose the ones that are most interesting to you.

1. Do you play any sports currently? Have you played any in the past?
2. What is your favorite sport to play? What is your favorite sport to watch?
3. Do you think any sports are boring? If so, which ones?
4. What is the most popular sport in your home country? Are there any **unique** sports in your home country?
5. Have you ever tried a winter sport, like skiing, ice skating, or snowboarding?
6. Would you rather watch a sporting event live, watch it on TV, or listen on the radio? Why?
7. Who are some famous athletes in your home country? Who are some famous American athletes you are familiar with?
8. If you have children, do they play sports? Which sport? If you don't have children, would you want your kids to play sports or not?

9. Do you think playing on a sports team help teach people **teamwork**? Why or why not?
10. Are people in your country crazy about sports? Do you think that Americans are crazy about sports?
11. Which do you like better: museums, movies, zoos, or sports events? Why?
12. Do you think professional athletes make too much money?
13. Do you like to buy food at the stadium when you go to a sporting event?
14. Which sport would be the most difficult to play? Which is the most dangerous?
15. Do you enjoy watching the **Olympics**? Which Olympic sport is your favorite?

### 10:20-10:40 Grammar: Simple Past vs. Present Perfect

The simple past tense and the present perfect tense are very similar in how they are formed, but they carry slightly different meanings

<b>FORM</b> SIMPLE PAST (a) I <b>finished</b> my lunch two hour ago.  PRESENT PERFECT (b) I <b>have</b> already finished my lunch.	With the simple past, the simple verb is used. The present perfect on the other hand uses the helping verb <b>has/have</b> + simple verb.
<b>MEANING AND USE</b> SIMPLE PAST (c) I was in Tokyo last year.  PRESENT PERFECT (d) I have been in Tokyo many times. (e) Bob has been in New York for two weeks.	The SIMPLE PAST expresses an activity that occurred at a specific time (or times) in the past.  The PRESENT PERFECT expresses an activity that occurred at an unspecified time or (times) in the past as in (d). It can also express an activity that began in the past and continues into the future as in (e).

For each statement below, decide whether the verb in *italics* expresses something that happened at a specified time in the past (and is therefore a simple past) or an unspecified time (and is therefore a present perfect).

#### Example:

**Statement:** I *have cheered* for the Bulls for many years.  
**Answer:** Unspecified time, so it is a present perfect.

1. Ms. Smith *has been* to Wrigley Field many times.
2. Ms. Smith *was* at Wrigley Field last week.
3. I *have met* some prayers of the Bulls in downtown Chicago.
4. Two years ago, the Bulls won their first game of the season.

For each statement below, pay attention to the verb and decide whether the person played the sport in the past or if they still play the sport.

**Example:**

**Statement:** Buddy played basketball for two years.

**Answer:** The verb is a simple past, so Buddy no longer plays basketball.

1. Jan has played soccer for two years.
2. Jimmy played baseball when he was eight years old.
3. Jason loved lacrosse three years ago.
4. Rebecca has practiced karate since she was a little girl.

*The activity below is to help familiarize you with the local Chicago sports and teams! For each team listed below, find the sport they play, where they play, and their team logo.*

(Ex.,) The Chicago Cubs play baseball at Wriggle Field.

1. The Chicago Bulls play \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The Chicago Blackhawks play \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The Chicago Fire play \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The Chicago White Sox play \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The Chicago Bears play \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.