

## READING The power of football

### >>> Understand pronouns

#### SPEAK AND READ

**1 Work in pairs. Answer the questions.**

- 1 Do you play football? Do you watch football? Why?/Why not?
- 2 Why do you think football is so popular?
- 3 What do you think people can learn from football?

**2 Students at King's Wood School have done a project. Look at the photos and headings. What do you think the project is about? Decide if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).**

- 1 Football can help with social problems. C
- 2 You can't play football without the right equipment. I
- 3 You can learn important life skills from football. C
- 4 People in Kibera have little money and often have health problems. C
- 5 The football organisation's aim is to train top football players. I
- 6 Football has changed Josephine's life. C

**3 >2.44 Read the report to check your answers to Exercise 2.**

King's Wood  
SCHOOL

### Our sports report: Football isn't just fun!

All over the world, organisations use football to help young people with problems. In some countries, football programmes keep bored kids off the streets and away from crime. In other countries, the programmes work with kids who have no homes or no parents, or kids who have HIV or AIDS.

Why football? Well, millions of people play football and billions of people watch it. You don't need expensive equipment. You can play it in the street without a football pitch, proper goals, expensive football boots or a real ball. And football, like many other sports, teaches you skills which are useful in all areas of life: teamwork, fair play and respect for others.

Kibera in Nairobi, Kenya is a very poor area where 200,000 people live. Most of the people that live here survive on very little money and many of them eat only once a day. There's rubbish everywhere and little healthcare. Half of the people here have HIV or AIDS. In 2000 a football programme started for boys and girls. It aims to help them believe in themselves, and gives students health and life skills education. Students learn about HIV and how to protect themselves against it. They also do activities that help to improve life in the area.

#### A new life for Josephine

'I live with my grandmother and my sister. My parents both died two years ago. I started to go to football training to forget my problems. Now I play because I love the sport. Before I didn't go to school because we didn't have money to pay. But the organisation has a free school and I get lunch there too. It's like a new life for me.'

**4 a Read the tips in the HOW TO box.**

**b Read the report again. Circle the pronoun *it* in paragraphs 2 and 3. Which nouns do they replace?**

**5 Which tips in the HOW TO box did you use for help with Exercise 4b? Tick (✓) them.**

#### REACT

**6 Work in pairs. Which sentences do you agree with? Why?**

- 1 I think football is a great way for kids to learn skills.
- 2 I think football can help kids in lots of different situations.
- 3 I think it's important to collect money for kids who need help.

#### GO BEYOND

Circle all the football and equipment words in the text.

#### HOW TO

understand pronouns

- ☐ Find the pronoun (eg *it/its, they/them/their*).
- ☐ Identify the correct noun (eg *sport, players*) for the pronoun. A pronoun usually comes AFTER the noun.
- ☐ Replace the pronoun with a noun. If it sounds wrong, find another noun.