



LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sangam College

Year/Level: 11

Name: _____

Subject: English

Worksheet 12

Year: _____

Strand	Listening and Speaking
Sub Strand	Communication text types, media text, everyday communications and literary text
Content Learning Outcome	Create a variety of oral and/or visual text type to communicate ideas for a particular audience, purpose and context.

Varieties of English: Language of Sports Commentary

A live sports commentary is a voiced account of a sports event. The person who does the reporting is known as the commentator.

Tone – is usually varied and changes a number of times during the game. This is because the pitch of the commentators’ voice rises naturally when the excitement of the game is high, and is toned down when the excitement is low.

Voiced Hesitation – words like ‘er, um, ohh’. This happens when the commentator tries to clarify his/her thoughts within the short span of time.

Sports jargon – these are specialised vocabulary or terminology of the language of a particular sport eg, penalty, side kick etc...

Stuttering – it means repetition of consonants in a word eg. ...r...r...r...rugby. This occurs in commentaries when the pace of the game is fast and exciting.

Verbal Contraction – eg. Isn’t, didn’t, etc... since commentary is very fast commentator does not have time to use formal and complete sentences. Contractions give the language an informal tone.

Incomplete Sentences (Ellipsis) - the sentences are usually incomplete due to the changing actions and pace of the game.

The Simple Present Tense – this is used to indicate the current time the game is occurring
eg. Tom runs after the ball.

The Present Continuous Tense – it shows that the activity is still going on at the time of reporting
eg. Tom is running after the ball.

Incorrect Word Order – it usually happens when there is a sudden change in the pace of the game.

Simile – a comparison using ‘like’ or ‘as’ eg. Tomasi speeds on like a Leopard

Metaphor – comparison without the use of like or as
eg. Bill is now a hungry lion after the deer.

(simile and Metaphor makes the commentary more interesting and colourful)

Active Voice – focus directly on the subject eg.
Ponipate kicks the ball.

Activity Questions

(5 marks)

Study the samples below and answer the questions that follow.

Sample 1

The final of the men’s 200 metres.....Ogunode of Qatar in 2, Guliyer of Turkey in 3, Gatlin, the fastest man in the world in 4, Hughes, Great Britain in 5, Bolt, the greatest sprinter we’ve ever seen, Jamaica, in 6, Jobodwana of South Africa in 7, Ashmeade, Jamaica, in 8 and Edward, Panama on the outside. These are the moments that make great champions.....

The final of the men’s 200 metresGatlin gets a good start, he’s already up. Bolt’s caught up well. Watch out for Edward on the outside. Usain Bolt is up. He has a lead over Gatlin. Can the American come back? He’s starting to close the gap. Justin Gatlin is trying to close but Bolt’s already smiling. Did we ever doubt him? 19.56! Usain Bolt is just unstoppable when it comes to the 200 metres

QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose of this sample? (1 mark)

2. Who would be interested in listening to this commentary? (1 mark)

3. Why are there pauses in the above sample? (1 mark)

4. Identify the tense that is used in the sample. (1 mark)

5. Why is this tense (in question 4 above) used? (1 mark)
