

Keith **Speaking** Academy

Live Lesson Notes

Sports

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Some Useful Links

My **online course** for IELTS Speaking

<https://courses.keithspeakingacademy.com/p/ielts-speaking-get-band-7-gold>

A great tool to find **collocations**

<http://www.ozdic.com/collocation-dictionary/sport>

Collect my free materials here

<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-free-live-lessons/>

Follow me on **Social Media**

<https://www.facebook.com/keithspeakingacademy>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA>

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Sports

Warm up!

Fill in the gap with one word

1. I like to _____ sports, especially team sports
2. I am not very _____, I prefer to read books at home.
3. I have been _____ yoga for 2 years

Answers at bottom of PDF

Essential Vocabulary

Sport (n. - countable)

Which sport do you practice?

I like doing winter sports, like skiing and skating

Sport (n. - uncountable)

*I did a lot of sport when I was younger, I don't do **much sport** these days.*

To sport (v.) = to wear

She is sporting a fashionable red hat.

Sporty (adj.) = someone who enjoys doing sport

I am not really the sporty type

There are different verbs we can use with the word 'sport' and also different sports will take different verbs.

Verb + Sport

Do sports

Play sports

Practice sports (more serious)

I like to play many different sports

I mainly do sports on the weekend

Play soccer / football / tennis

We usually use 'play' for competitive team sports

Do yoga / pilates / judo

We usually use 'do' for individual sports without a ball

IELTS Speaking: Doing Sports

Below we have some different ways of saying 'I like' a sport

- I'm into _____
- I'm keen on _____
- I'm a big fan of _____
- I'm one for _____
- I really dig _____

I'm keen on playing football

I really dig basketball

Which sport did you practice as a child?

- I used to _____
- I played _____
- I was into _____
- I would _____

I used to play football at school. I played in goals. I was really into football actually. We would also play everyday in the break between classes.

Which sports do you do now?

- I'm into _____
- I currently play / do _____
- At the moment, I am doing _____
- I'm fond of _____

I'm into basketball nowadays, I currently play every Saturday. At the moment, I am playing for a local team in a local league.

Grammar Rule

When a **preposition** is followed by a **verb**, that verb needs to be in the **gerund** (the ING form).

Preposition + verb (+ING)

I'm interested IN + hikING

I am keen ON + swimMING

IELTS Speaking: Watching Sports

Do you prefer to do sports or watch them?

1. Listen to the first answer and note any interesting collocations or phrasal verbs

Link here: <https://vimeo.com/745345847>



Answers at bottom of PDF

2. Listen to the second answer and note any interesting collocations or phrasal verbs

Link here: <https://vimeo.com/745346036>



Answers at bottom of PDF

IELTS Speaking Tip: Tenses

There is not much difficult vocabulary with a topic like 'sports'.

So you can use simple vocabulary, but use several different tenses. Using a wide range of tenses will help improve your score for grammar in the IELTS Speaking test.

Listen to this simple answer.

1. How many different tenses do you hear?

Link here:

https://keithspeakingacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Do-you-play-any-sports_.mp3

Answers at bottom of PDF

Collocations with 'sport'

As you learn new vocabulary, it is a good idea to learn the common collocations for new words you are learning.

Here are some common ones, for the word 'sport'.

- It's a **mainstream sport** (*popular with everyone*)
- It's a **competitive sport**
- It's a **spectator sport** (=a sport many people watch)

Find out more collocations with **OZDIC**

<http://www.ozdic.com/collocation-dictionary/sport>

IELTS Speaking tip: What if I hate sports?

Don't worry, if you have no interest in an IELTS speaking topic, like 'sports'.

The important thing is that you say something.

Try following this simple formula

- Say why you hate it
- Talk about past experiences of sport
- What you prefer instead

For example,

I'm not really into sports, to be honest.

I've never been really sporty.

*I hated sports at school, it was so competitive,
and I used to get tired so easily.*

On top of that, I'm not very strong physically, so I always struggled.

I'd much rather stay at home and watch TV.

Idioms to talk about Sport

To **try your hand at** = to try a new activity

*I'd like to **try my hand at** paragliding, it looks so much fun!*

To **take up** = to start a hobby / sport

*I'd **take up water skiing**, if I had the time and lived near a lake*

To **root for** = to support (a team, a player)

*I am not a big United fan, but I am **rooting for** United because I hate City*

ANSWERS:

Warm up - ANSWERS

Fill in the gap with one word

1. I like to **_do / play / watch / practice_** sports, especially team sports
2. I am not very **_sporty / active _**, I prefer to read books at home.
3. I have been **_doing / practicing_** yoga for 2 years

IELTS Speaking: Watching Sports - ANSWERS

Answer 1

I must confess,

although I played lots of sport as a kid,
nowadays I just don't **get round to it.** (*Find time to do something*)

After working all day,

I prefer to **slump down** (*to drop, to collapse*) **in front of the telly**
and watch a good **football match.**

I guess I have become a bit of a **couch potato** (*a person who spends too much time on the sofa. Someone who is lazy or bone idle*)

A couch = a sofa

To slouch = to sit but not straight, with a bad posture

Answer 2

Well, I watch **the occasional football match**

or **game of golf,**

but I am not **an avid sports fan,** (*a big sports fan*)

to be honest.

I certainly don't play any sports nowadays,
unless **a walk in the park** counts.

I don't _____, unless _____ counts

I don't _____, unless _____ can be considered / included

IELTS Speaking Tip: Tenses - ANSWERS

5 different tenses

I play tennis, (present simple)

I've been playing since I was a kid
(present perfect continuous)

I remember I took it up when I was 9
(simple past)

because I had seen my friends play it
(past perfect)

And I wanted to try it too, I thought
when I am older, I will be the best player in the world
(1st conditional)