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In this episode, **The Teacher** introduces you to three idiomatic phrases connected with football.

1. **The kick off.**
  2. **Moving the goalposts.**
  3. **A political football.**
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Hello, I'm a very interesting and intelligent...

...footballer.

And today, the sport of football and I are getting together to teach you some English idioms.

I bet you've never been taught by the sport of football before!

That's right. It's time for kick off in today's match... lesson.

In English, if we're speaking informally, we can call the start of any event, not just a sports match, the kick off.

**The kick off.** The start of an event.

Ah, my boss. He's not very happy with me.

He says I was late for a meeting yesterday. He told me kick off was at 12 o'clock.

But when I arrived, he said I was an hour late.

That's right. He's always moving the goalposts.

In English, if someone changes the rules while we are trying to do something, to make it harder, we say they're moving the goalposts... Argh!

### **Moving the goalposts.**

Like that time I told my students to prepare for a vocabulary test and then gave them a grammar exam! Ha ha ha! I really moved the goalposts. They hated me so much.

Parliament. This is where politicians... argue.

Ah, they're arguing about... my lessons.

One of the political parties wants to keep them going, while the other party wants to BAN them!

That's right. It's a political football.

In English, when politicians from different parties argue about something and try to get an advantage for themselves, we can say it's a political football.

### **A political football.**

Right, I'm off to win the cup!