

<http://www.ello.org/english/0451/494-Steve-Soccer.htm>

**Listen to the interview WITHOUT THE SCRIPT and answer the questions below:**

1. Why does Steve think football is the best sport in the world? (Give three reasons)
2. Where in the world is baseball played?
3. Why does Todd think baseball is more democratic than football?
4. What skills do you need in baseball?

**Look at the transcript. Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions:**

- a) Lagging back (to lag back)
- b) Nifty

<http://www.ello.org/english/0501/542-Alan-Hockey.html>

**In the transcript, click on the Audio Quiz link and do the listening quiz. Then write your answers to the questions below:**

1. What is a salary cap?
2. Why does Alan think salary caps are a good idea for professional hockey players?
3. Why is Alan confident that there won't be any more strikes for a while?

<http://www.ello.org/english/1001/1006-Winning.htm>

**Listen to the interview WITHOUT THE SCRIPT and answer the questions below:**

1. Why does Monica think that more emphasis should be put on participating rather than winning?
2. Why does Todd think more focus should be on winning rather than participating?

3. Why does Monica think that a competitive attitude in the workplace can be negative?

**Look at the transcript. Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions:**

- a) The emphasis is shifted (*from X to Y*)
- b) An upbringing
- c) Is that a cop-out?

### **Sports discussion**

**Look at the questions below. Write your answers to three of them.**

1. What do you think is the best sport in the world? Explain your answer.
2. Do you think professional sports players' high salaries are justified? Why (not)?
3. Is it ok for professional sports players to go on strike? What about in international tournaments?
4. Do you think sports lessons should be compulsory in schools? Why (not)?
5. Do you feel proud if your national team wins a match? Explain your answer.
6. Do you think that sport distracts people from things that are really important?
7. Is it wrong to take drugs in sports competitions? Why (not?)
8. Whose fault is it when athletes dope themselves? The athlete, the trainer or society in general for putting so much pressure on the athlete?
9. If an Olympic athlete from your country was disqualified for doping, would you feel ashamed for your country?
10. If an athlete had surgery in order to improve his or her performance, would you consider that the same as doping, ethically speaking? What about acupuncture? Hypnotherapy? A sex change?