

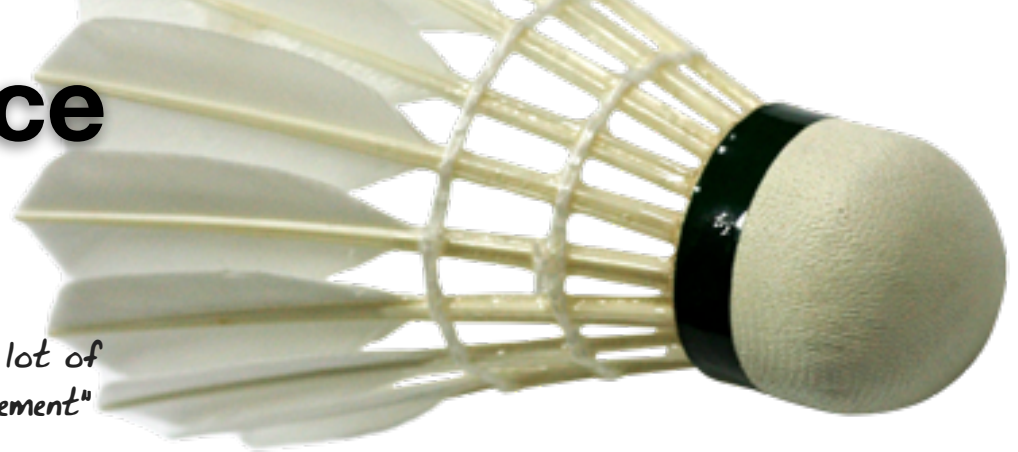
# Weekly English Practice



September 2014

English Coaching Projects

*"Badminton is like ballet dancing. It requires a lot of control, strength, mind play and measured movement"*



## First ever Spanish world badminton champion

Carolina Marin from Huelva wins world championship in Copenhagen

**an upset (n):** *an unexpected result or situation*

**seed (n):** *a competitor in a sports competition ranked in list*

**to drop (v):** *to lose a point or game*

**to look (v):** *to give the impression of something*

**be in trouble (exp):** *to have problems or difficulties*

**be at ease (exp):** *to be relaxed, comfortable*

**terrific (adj):** *fantastic, wonderful*

**to reign (v):** *to be the current champion*

**to misfire (v):** *to fire incorrectly, not produce the desired result*

Spain's Carolina Marin caused a monumental **upset** when she beat Chinese world number one Li Xuerui to win the women's singles title at the Badminton World Championships in Copenhagen in September.

The 21-year-old ninth **seed** recovered from **dropping** the opening game to the top **seed** and Olympic champion to complete an incredible 17–21, 21–17, 21–18 victory and earn her country its first ever major title in the sport.

*"I don't have any words...it was a fantastic match," said Marin. "Li played amazing rallies in the first set and her strokes are so good. My coach told me if I wanted to win I had to fight until the end. I fought to the end, that's what I did. I feel so excited."*

Li had rarely **looked in trouble** before the final and she again looked **at ease** with her **terrific** stroke play proving too much for the tenacious Marin in the opening game.

However, the Spaniard, **reigning** European champion, was undeterred and came out positively at the start of the second set as she established an early lead before Li fought back. This time though Marin responded by taking the attack to her opponent and Li began to **misfire** more regularly. From 15-all Marin upped her standards and levelled the contest.

The Chinese regrouped in the third game and inched 14–11 ahead but once more Marin refused to give in as the world number 10 fought her way back to 15-all after winning an incredible rally.

Play paused for Li to seek treatment on her right ankle with Marin 16–15 ahead and the Spaniard went further in front once the contest resumed. Li then hit a shot too long to make it 20–18 in favour of Marin.

Carolina then fell to the court in delight on the subsequent point as Li shot into the net and the Spaniard became the first European women's world singles champion since Denmark's Camilla Martin in 1999. And at 21, she is the youngest European world champion ever.

Carolina started playing badminton at the IES La Orden badminton club in Huelva.

This was adapted from:

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/60-amazing-queen-facts-you-661023>

“ Something to chat about ”

- Why is Carolina Marin's victory so important?
- What title did she win, where and against whom?
- After reading the report of the match, do you think it was an easy win? If not, why not?
- How many points do you need to win a game in badminton, and how many games do you need to win the match (in women's competitions)?
- Have you ever played badminton or watched a match? If not, would you like to?
- Do you think it is a physically demanding sport?
- Watch Carolina win here: <http://tinyurl.com/mpcfjjo> (YouTube)

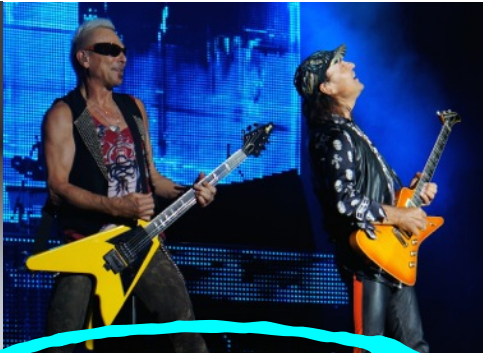




# ECP writing competition!! Win a night of pintxos!! (20€)

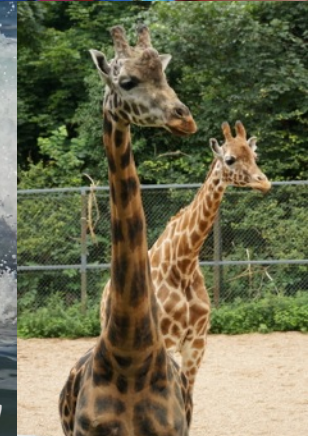
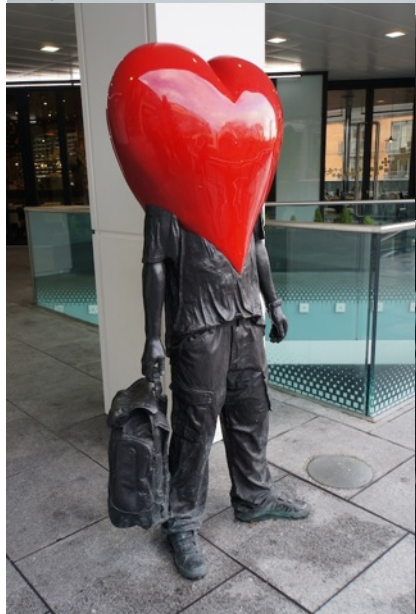
Look at the photos for inspiration and write a story that starts and ends with the sentences you see below (*you don't have to use all the photos and you don't have to write about what is in them - just use them for inspiration*). There are 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes! C'mon!

**“Wow!  
I had a  
really  
crazy  
dream  
last  
night.  
It started  
when...**



**Hand in your creation to your  
ECP coach by 31st October**

**...and then  
the Police  
took me  
home.”**



*Photos © Robert Hextall*