

## A Hockey Match

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Last Sunday I witnessed a very keenly contested hockey match between the National College and the Government College. Large crowds of spectators gathered to witness the final match of the year. Match during the first half It was a brisk game from the very 'start. The Centre forwards of the National team pressed their opponents hard. At first, they seemed to carry everything before them. At one time they actually netted, but the referee gave the whistle for 'foul' play. Match after the interval. During the second half the match was as brisk as before. But now there was a turn in the tide. The Centre-forwards of the Government College fell upon the Nationals. But the latter defended their goal bravely. So, with all their best efforts the Government College failed to score a goal. It was a very exciting match. Both the teams played with vigour and enthusiasm. Since neither team could score a goal, the match ended in a draw.

Essay No. 2

## A Hockey Match

I do not play hockey but I love to watch the game. And few occasions provide better hockey than the annual Sindhia Hockey Tournament at Gwalior.

Last Sunday I saw the final match of the Tournament. It was a sunny day – the best weather games. A large number of prominent people and hockey lovers had gathered to watch the match. The governor of Madhya Pradesh along with the prime Minister and other high officials, was present there. All round the field, students and common public had gathered. The spectators were impatiently waiting for the match to begin.

The players took the field exactly at 4 p.m. the yellow of the Jhansi Heroes presented a striking contrast to the blue and red of the Bombay Eleven. Deep Chand and some other famous Olympic players were playing for Jhansi. On the other side the Bombay Eleven were the hockey champions of their provinces. Hence everybody expected a very good game.

From the very beginning the game proved thrilling. The Jhansi Heroes were active and began their attack with great vigour. They showed excellent combination and real team spirit. Their forward players combined well and passed the ball with great skill. Thus, they were able to make repeated attacks on the Bombay Eleven who had to play a defensive game. The defence line of Bombay was quite strong. Their Centre half was a tower of strength for his side. Again, and again, he had a tough contest with Deep Chand who would not easily get the better of him.

During the first half of the game the Bombay Eleven were hard pressed. After the half time, the game began with fresh enthusiasm. Deep Chand, the captain of the Jhansi heroes seemed rather vexed at the inability of his side to score. Now he decided to lead the attack. On the other hand, the Bombay Eleven changed their tactics. Now they also began to attack fiercely. For a few movements the game was extremely contested. At first it seemed that the Bombay Eleven would defeat their opponents. But soon it became clear that they were more or less tried. Moreover, they were individually good players, but lacked combination and team spirit.

The game reached its height during the last 15 minutes. Deep Chand carried the ball to goal circle, passed it to his right-out who gave a hard hit. The ball went straight to the net. The spectators were wild with joy. Amar Nath Sharma who had given the lucky shot became the hero of the crowd.

Now the game became highly excited. The Bombay Eleven made every effort to score but Jhansi backs and half-backs put up a hard defence. They would not let the ball touch even their goal circle. Deep Chand scored another goal. This was a decisive blow.

Now Bombay Eleven knew that it was over. So, the match ended in victory for the Jhansi heroes, who received the gold trophy from the Governor.

Essay No. 3

### **A Hockey Match**

Hockey is undoubtedly one of the most interesting and exciting games, from the point of view of both the players and the spectators. It is a fast game, not slow and leisurely like cricket. Besides, there are few uncertainties and surprises in the game. In hockey, victory always goes to the better players, better both as regards skill and coordination. We had an interesting exhibition of hockey the other day at the Shiva Ji Stadium. It was a match between the University eleven and the District eleven. The District eleven won this match by two goals to one. The District victory was hard earned. The University men played well, but not well enough in comparison with district team. But the University men certainly made the District Players fight for every inch.

The University men proceeded to give the District team one of the hardest times experienced by them. Never at any time were the District allowed to relax. While the District team had to thank Ajay Sharma and Ravi for their many breakthroughs and Manoj for his cleverly imitated moves, the University team owed much to Rajesh and Wazir.

Exchanges were more or less even the initial session, though the University team for long spells pinned the District team to their own area. But when it came to scoring, it was the team to their own area. But when it came to scoring. It was the District team who took the initiative first. Manoj tried to get the District's attack going with some well- spread passes. The University team were out first with a penalty corner that could not be used to better advantage. Then followed good hockey, though unproductive as far as goals went, for the next fifteen minutes. A few move between Sunil, Manoj and Ajay Sharma ended with the last getting the better of right – back Hari and hitting the ball in from next to the advancing Goalkeepers. But even as the ball hit the boards, umpire Davi Singh pulled up Raman for obstruction and awarded a penalty –push. Ajit converted it into a goal. This happened in the 17<sup>th</sup> minute. The University team applied pressure, following the reverse and five minutes later, inside – right Jain scooped out from the top of the area. In the last minute of the first half, the District eleven wasted a penalty corner hit.

Once the teams changed sides for the second half, the District team took over the attack and for about ten minutes gave the University defense a grueling time. The University wasted a penalty corner. Immediately the ball was propelled to the other end where timely advance by Pawan stopped Aditya at the top of the “D”. the game swung to the District half with University forwards, spurred by Hari, going all out for the equalizer. They were not denied for long when Divyansh pushed the ball in from a hectic melee, following a penalty corner hit taken by full- back Wazir that was padded weakly by Raman.

But it was to be a District's day and now they subjected the University defense to some pounding. Two minutes from the equalizer, Lakhi Ram cut the ball as he took a penalty corner shot and goal was disallowed.

The next minute in a rare flash by Ajay Sharma, the District went ahead, put through by outside left, he entered the area with the ball well in control and dodged the advancing Pawan with a back- hand flick. Pawan stood bewildered as the ball was shot past him into the goal.

The game was exiting from beginning to end and it was full of suspense. The crowd was very enthusiastic and except at one point full endorsed the judgment of the umpire Davi Singh. No ugly incident marred the play. There was some partisan clapping and hearty shouts of “buck up, buck up” by the respective supporters in the crowd, but that always happens at such matches. The end-of – monsoon weather was excellent, and the match was played in a picturesque setting in which the soft green grass blended beautifully well with the contrasting blue and yellow colour of the District and the University teams.

