

# Mastering the Pitch: Invasion Games Skills

*Learning objective: To understand the tactical principles of invasion games, including attacking, defending, and creating space.*

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of team sports to provide clear, tactical explanations. Think about how Max the Monkey might solve these spatial puzzles!

Invasion games are sports where the main goal is to enter the opponent's territory to score points or a goal. Success depends on working as a team to move the ball or object safely while preventing the other team from getting it.

*Word bank: possession · interception · space · defence · tactics · communication · teammate · dribbling*

**1. When your team has possession of the ball, why is it important to 'spread out' and create space on the pitch? (2 marks)**

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**2. Describe one way you can defend against an opponent who is dribbling the ball towards your goal without committing a foul. (2 marks)**

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**3. Why is 'communication' considered a vital skill in an invasion game? Give an example of what you might shout to a teammate. (2 marks)**

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**4. If the opposing team has a very strong defence, what tactic could your team use to try and move the ball past them? (2 marks)**

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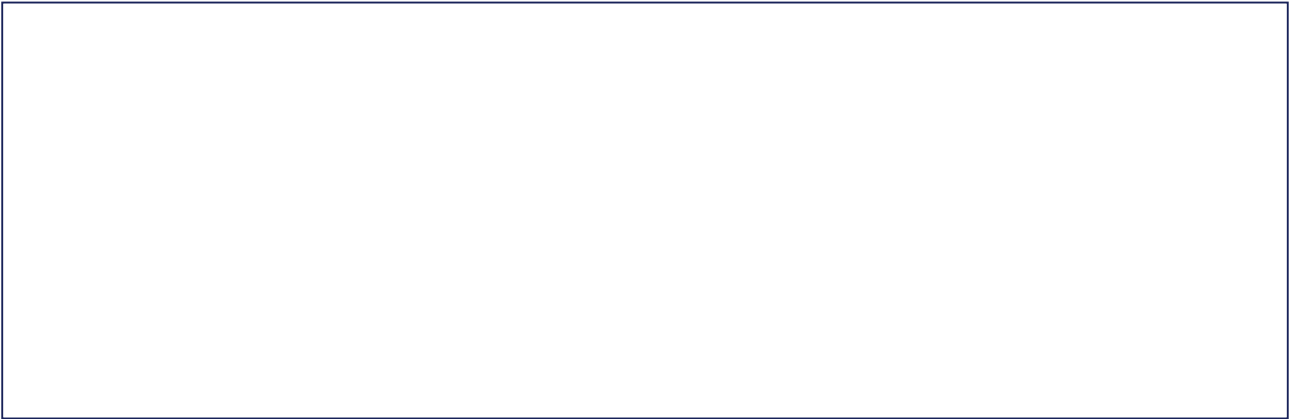
**5. Explain the difference between an attacking position and a defensive position during a match. (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a bird's-eye view diagram of a pitch. Use arrows to show how three teammates could pass the ball to each other to move around two defenders.



*Extension challenge: Imagine you are the coach. Write three simple rules for your team to follow to ensure everyone plays fairly and works together during a match.*