

Tactical Masterminds: Invasion Game Strategy

Learning objective: To apply tactical understanding of space, possession, and defence in invasion games.

Max the monkey is helping his team design a winning strategy for an invasion game. Use the word bank to fill in the missing tactical principles. Then, read the tactical scenarios and justify your team's decisions based on these principles.

Word bank: Width · Depth · Support · Marking · Interception · Possession · Transition · Communication

1. 1. Explain why using 'Width' on the pitch makes it more difficult for the opposing team to defend. How does this create space for your team? (2 marks)

2. 2. If your team has lost the ball, describe the immediate 'Transition' actions you should take to prevent the opposition from scoring. (2 marks)

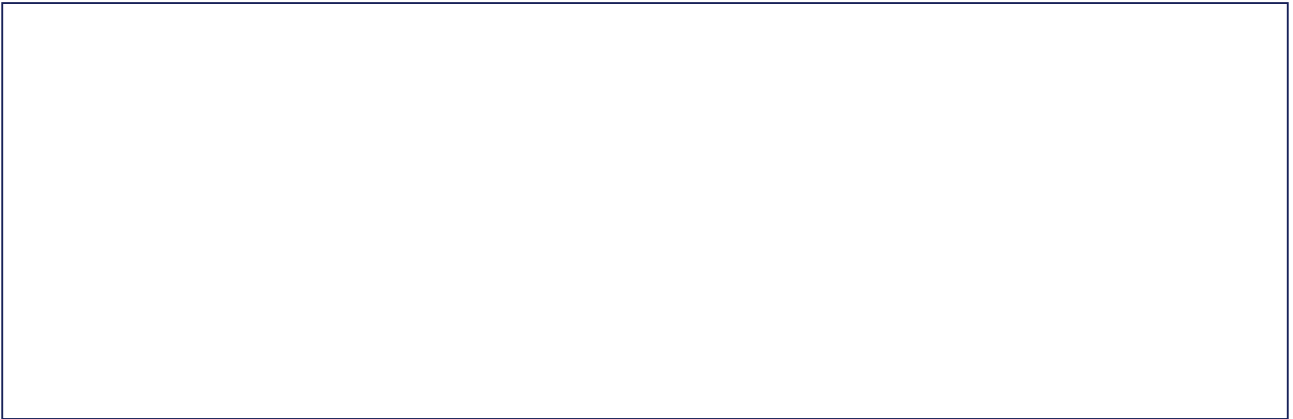
3. 3. Compare and contrast 'Zonal Marking' and 'Man-to-Man Marking'. In what situation would you choose one over the other? (3 marks)

4. 4. Justify your answer: Why is 'Support' play essential for maintaining 'Possession' when you are under pressure from a defender? (2 marks)

5. 5. What might happen if your team fails to use 'Depth' when attacking? How would this affect your ability to move the ball forward? (2 marks)

6. 6. Max says: 'Constant talking on the pitch is just as important as physical fitness.' Do you agree? Justify your stance using the principle of 'Communication'. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a bird's-eye view diagram of a pitch. Label the positions of four players using your team's strategy to create 'Width' and 'Depth' while attacking the goal.



Extension challenge: Design a 30-second 'set-piece' drill for your team. Write a set of step-by-step instructions that use at least four of the words from the word bank to explain how your team will move the ball from the half-way line to the goal.