

Exercise 2

Watch an over of T20 cricket.

Essex vs. Surrey, T20 Blast 2019: https://youtu.be/Lq9K6_XWmOc

Turn the commentary off! It's fun to listen, but try watching and deciding for yourself what is going on.

Take another look at the 5th over of the Essex innings (18.50 on the recording), Tom Curran to Cameron Delport & Tom Westley.

We have already considered at this over from the batter's perspective. For each delivery, we have already noted

- line & length; pace/pace-off; swing/swerve/spin; any other variation
- What stroke might you expect to each delivery?
 - What would the textbook response be?
 - In a Test match, what stroke would you expect to see?
- What actually happened?
- What risks did the batter take?

Now, we are going to think about this over from the bowler's perspective. You might want to make some notes as you watch; stop the playback if you like.

Don't judge — don't try to decide if it is good or bad. For now, let's try to work see what is actually happening.

Advanced questions

- Did the batter give any clues?
 - Did he favour hitting to one side of the ground?
 - Did he move early (before the ball was released)?
 - Forward or back? Side-to-side?
 - Pick-up of the bat?
- What could the bowler have done?
- [If you are a batter — what could the bowler have done to make it harder for the batter to play these strokes?]

N.B. Don't worry if you don't spot anything — neither did Tom Curran, and he is an international bowler!

Better Cricket – more than just a game!

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