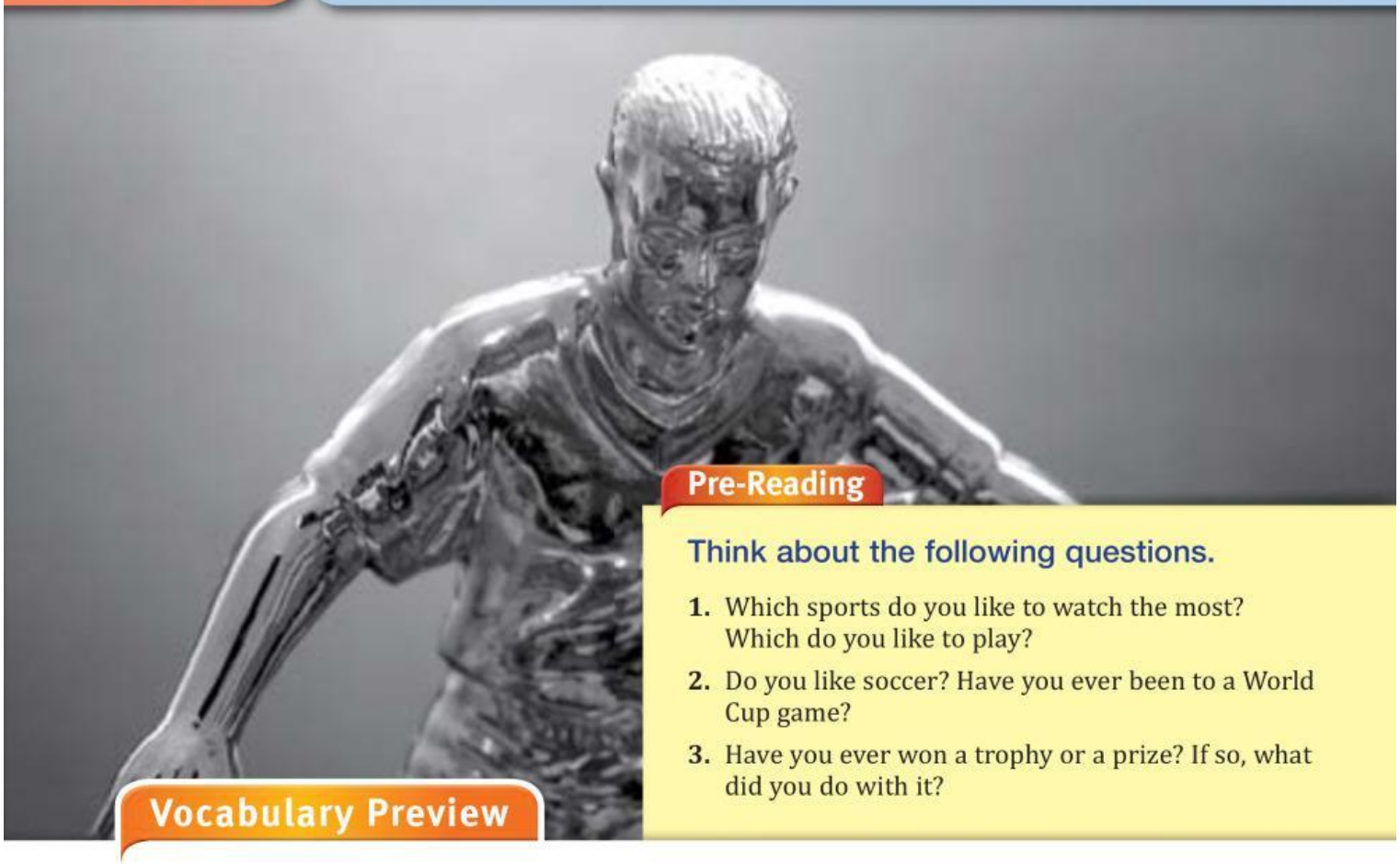
18 Taking Home the World Cup



Pre-Reading

Think about the following questions.

1. Which sports do you like to watch the most? Which do you like to play?
2. Do you like soccer? Have you ever been to a World Cup game?
3. Have you ever won a trophy or a prize? If so, what did you do with it?

Vocabulary Preview

Write the letter of the word or phrase with the same meaning as the underlined word or phrase.

a. the state of being	d. before
b. wrote by cutting into	e. copy; another that is the same
c. got back; regained	f. stands for; symbolizes

1. ___ The blue ribbon <u>represents</u> the best player as chosen by the judges.
2. ___ A game like soccer has been in <u>existence</u> for hundreds of years.
3. ___ There was no World Cup tournament <u>prior to</u> 1930.
4. ___ The trophy was stolen, but police found the thief and <u>recovered</u> it.
5. ___ This is not the original document. I made a <u>duplicate</u> using the copy machine.
6. ___ He <u>inscribed</u> his girlfriend's initials on the inside of the ring.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Taking Home the World Cup

Track 35

It's only thirty-six centimeters tall, but to fans throughout the world, it represents the highest achievement in **football**. Every four years, teams from all over the globe compete to take home the FIFA World Cup **Trophy**, yet nobody ever does. Nobody ever takes it home because the 18-carat gold trophy is kept under lock and key by FIFA (*Fédération Internationale de Football Association*). The champions of each World Cup tournament receive only a **replica**. This is to protect the valuable prize from thieves, who have stolen the World Cup trophy twice in its 75-year history.

The little trophy has certainly had a troubled existence. The original trophy was made by a French sculptor, Abel LaFleur, and was called the "Jules Rimet Cup," in honor of the founder of the World Cup tournament. Sometime during the first three World Cup events (1930, 1934, and 1938), the name changed to simply the "World Cup." Then during World War II, not much was seen or heard of the trophy. It was being kept hidden in a shoe box under the bed of Dr. Ottorino Barassi, the Italian vice-president of FIFA, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Nazi army.

In 1966, the Cup was stolen during a public showing of the trophy prior to the World Cup tournament in England. Luckily, it was found a short time later, none the worse for wear, in a trash container by a little dog named Pickles. Four years later, Brazil earned permanent **possession** of the original trophy by winning its third World Cup title. Unfortunately, the trophy was stolen a second time in 1983 and was never recovered. The Brazilian Football Association had to have a duplicate trophy made.

After the first trophy became the possession of Brazil's football association, a new World Cup Trophy for FIFA was designed by an Italian artist, Silvio Gazzaniga, in 1974. This trophy cannot be won **outright**, but remains in the possession of FIFA, and rest assured they are watching it very closely. Today, World Cup winners are awarded a replica of the trophy that is gold-**plated**, rather than solid gold like the real one.



Gazzaniga's World Cup trophy weighs almost five kilograms. Its base contains two layers of a **semi-precious** stone called malachite, and has room for seventeen small **plaques bearing** the names of the winning teams—enough space to honor all the World Cup champions up to the year 2038. After that, a new trophy will have to be made.

Reading Time _____ minutes _____ seconds 424 words

2 *football*: soccer
3 *trophy*: a prize; an award
6 *replica*: an exact copy, usually of a work of art
18 *possession*: a thing that is owned; property
23 *outright*: directly
25 *plate*: to cover with metal
28 *semi-precious*: less valuable than precious stones
29 *plaque*: a rectangular piece of wood or metal inscribed to honor someone or something
29 *bear*: to carry; to hold

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer.

1. What is the reading mainly about?

a. The World Cup tournament
b. Thieves
c. The World Cup trophy
d. World Cup stars

2. Which question is NOT answered in the reading?

a. How much does the World Cup trophy weigh?
b. Who made the first trophy?
c. Where did the police find the stolen trophy?
d. How much money is the trophy worth?

3. The first trophy was named the "Jules Rimet Cup" because Rimet _____.

a. made the trophy
b. was a famous player
c. scored the final goal in 1930
d. came up with the idea of the World Cup

4. Which is true about Gazzaniga's World Cup trophy?

a. It is made of gold and silver.
b. It is a replica of the first trophy.
c. It is in a museum in Brazil.
d. It will only be used until 2038.

5. In which year did Brazil win the World Cup championship for the third time?

a. 1970
b. 1974
c. 1986
d. 2002

Idiomatic Expressions

Find these idioms in the reading.

- **under lock and key** [safe and secure; difficult to access]
  Important files are kept under lock and key in the manager's desk.
- **none the worse for wear** [still in good condition]
  The star gave an interview from his hospital bed to show that he was none the worse for wear after his operation.
- **rest assured** [to be certain; to relax because you know]
  On this you can rest assured: There is no one else in the world exactly like you.

Fill in the blank with one of the above idioms. Change its form if necessary.

1. Don't worry. The diamonds are _____.

2. _____ that the police will catch the criminal.

3. Thankfully, my dry-clean-only shirt looked _____ for having gone through the washing machine.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Summary

Read the sentences from the reading passage. Paraphrase the sentences to create a summary of the passage.

a. Nobody ever takes it home because the 18-carat gold trophy is kept under lock and key by FIFA (*Fédération Internationale de Football Association*).

b. This is to protect the valuable prize from thieves, who have stolen the World Cup trophy twice in its 75-year history.

1. a + b: The original World Cup trophy _____, so _____.

c. This trophy cannot be won outright, but remains in the possession of FIFA, and rest assured they are watching it very closely.

d. Today, World Cup winners are awarded a replica of the trophy that is gold-plated, rather than solid gold like the real one.

2. c + d: Now the World Cup trophy _____, so _____.

e. Four years later, Brazil earned permanent possession of the original trophy by winning its third World Cup title.

f. After the first trophy became the possession of Brazil's football association, a new World Cup Trophy for FIFA was designed by an Italian artist, Silvio Gazzaniga, in 1974.

3. e + f: Brazil won the original trophy _____, so _____.



Listening

A Sure Winner?

Track 36

Listen to the dialog. Check True or False for each sentence.

	True	False
1. The woman watched the US play against North Korea in the World Cup.	☐	☐
2. Every time Brazil made it to the championship match, they won.	☐	☐
3. According to the speakers, the next World Cup tournament is more than one year away.	☐	☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Discussion

Discuss the following questions.

1. Do you think that teams should be able to take home the real World Cup trophy? Why or why not?
2. What do you know about trophies for other famous tournaments?
3. Which would you rather win as a prize for a tournament: money or a trophy? Why?

Grammar

Past Passive

The past passive is used to express an action or a situation that began and ended before now. It is often used with particular words or phrases that emphasize past actions over past actors.

The original World Cup trophy (was made / has been made) by a French sculptor, and was called the "Jules Rimet Cup," in honor of the founder of the tournament.
In 1966, the Cup (stole / was stolen) during a public showing of the trophy prior to the World Cup tournament in England.

Writing

Write your own short paragraph by answering the questions below.

The Time I Won

(1) What is something that you have won? **(2)** When did you win this? **(3)** How did you win this? **(4)** What kind of prize did you get? **(5)** Do you still have this? If so, where?

Example

When I was in high school, I won a badminton tournament. My partner and I beat all the other players in my school. After the tournament, we each got a small trophy. I still have it in my room.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary and Idiom Review

A. Choose the best word or phrase to fill in the blank.

1. Have you _____ your stolen cell phone yet?

a. plated b. responded c. backed up d. recovered

2. I have very few _____. I don't even own a computer.

a. trophies b. plaques c. possessions d. features

3. Dan owns his house _____. He has paid off the bank loan completely.

a. outright b. saliva c. replica d. lock and key

4. Some believe in the _____ of aliens.

a. duplicate b. existence c. indication d. possession

5. Sue's brother studies _____ medicine.

a. Brazilian b. internal c. turbulent d. mental

6. _____ the war, gas prices were much lower.

a. Prior to b. Typically c. Initially d. Finally

7. John was born in the US, but he is a(n) _____ resident of Canada. It's his home now.

a. duplicate b. bearing c. permanent d. outright

B. Choose the correct form of the word to fill in the blank.

8. The _____ on the ring is very small. I can't read it.

a. inscribing b. inscribe c. inscription

9. _____ of this material is forbidden.

a. Duplicate b. Duplication c. Duplicated

10. The award, which _____ the highest level of achievement in our school, was given to my best friend.

a. representative b. represents c. representation

LIVEWORKSHEETS