Football and the World Cup

Do you like watching the World Cup? Why or why not?

- The World Cup in numbers

- Choose the best answer for each statement below. Then listen to the audio to check your answers.

1. The year the first World Cup was held: **1925 / 1930 / 1935**

2. The number of teams at the first World Cup: **13 / 17 / 20**

3. The number of people who watched the 2014 World Cup: **1.2 bn / 2.1 bn / 3.2 bn**

4. The number of teams that will play at the 2026 tournament: **32 / 40 / 48**

5. The average attendance at matches in 2014: **49,500 / 53,600 / 61,200**

6. The age of the oldest person to score a goal at a World Cup: **42 / 46 / 50**

7. The most goals that one player scored in a World Cup match: **4 / 5 / 6**

- Football nouns

- Match the words to the pictures.

A whistle

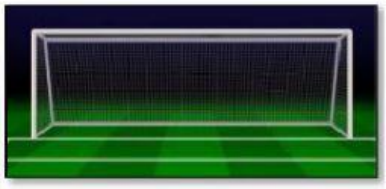
A football stadium

A trophy

A corner flag

A football pitch

The goal



LIVEWORKSHEETS

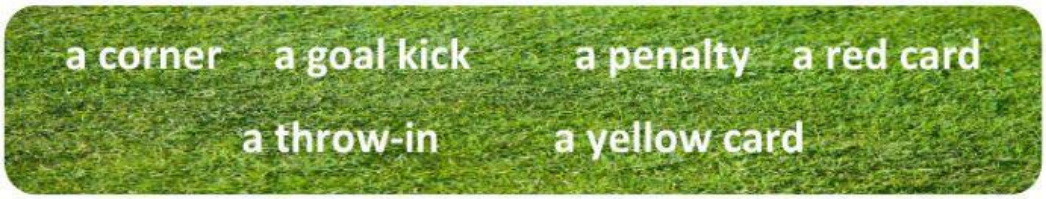
- Football and people

Match the people to what they do.

1. The captain			a. Is in charge of the game and makes sure the players obey the rules
2. The coach			b. Leads the team
3. A defender			c. Passes the ball to the strikers so they can score but also defends
4. The goalkeeper			d. Scores goals
5. A midfielder			e. Stands in the team's goal to stop the ball going in
6. A striker			f. Trains and organizes the team
7. The referee			g. Tries to stop the other team from scoring goals

- Playing the game

- Complete the sentences below with the correct words.



1. If a defender kicks the ball behind the goal, the other team gets

2. If a defender touches the ball with their hand in the goal area, the other team gets

3. If a player punches another player, they get

4. If a player kicks the ball over the line at the side of the pitch, the other team gets

5. If a player fouls several others, they get

6. If an attacker kicks the ball behind the goal, the other team gets

LIVEWORKSHEETS

- Football verbs

- Complete the sentences below with the correct verbs.

Dribble Head Mark Pass Score Shoot Kick Tackle

1. Oliver didn't _____the ball hard enough so it went straight to another player.

2. We need to _____another goal in the second half.

3. To get the ball from another player you have to _____them.

4. To _____the ball, players often have to jump in the air.

5. The team's striker is very fast and can easily _____past defenders.

6. Andy, _____the captain of the team closely to keep him out of the game.

7. It's unlikely you will score if you _____from the middle of the pitch.

8. Decide who you want to _____to before you kick the ball.

- **Quiz**

Choose the best answer for the questions below.

1. Who were the first winners of the World Cup?

a. Brazil b. Argentina c.Uruguay

2. Which country has won the World Cup the most times?

a. Brazil b. Germany c. Italy

3. What happened to the trophy just before the 1966 World Cup?

a. It was damaged in a fire.

b. It was stolen.

c. It got put in a museum by mistake.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. What were players not allowed to do at the 1986 World Cup?

a. spit on the ground b. show their tattoos c. swap their shirts

5. Which of these countries has played in the World Cup but has never won a match or scored a goal?

a. Canada b. Thailand c. Honduras

*FIFA is the *Fédération Internationale de Football Association*. The English translation is the **International Federation of Association Football**.

- **True or False**

1. Argentina is the only country that has taken part in every World Cup. **True / False**

2. The winning team will get $15 million. **True / False**

3. The birth rate in Germany rose by 10% nine months after the 2006 World Cup.

True / False

4. The fastest goal in a World Cup was scored in 20 seconds. **True / False**

5. Every team that has won the World Cup had a coach with a different nationality.
True / False

6. Iceland has a smaller population than any other country in the 2018 World Cup.
True / False