

14

The World Cup



READING

Before You Read

a) Describe what you see in the picture below. Name one of the players.



b) Work in groups to ask your partners the following questions to see how much they know about soccer and the World Cup.

1. How often is the World Cup held?
2. What does the abbreviation FIFA stand for?
3. When and where was the first World Cup tournament held?
4. Who is considered the all-time best soccer player?
5. When was the World Cup first held in Asia?
6. Is there a World Cup tournament for women?

Reading Text

Read the text and do the tasks that follow.



Soccer is the most popular sport throughout the world. The most famous competition in soccer is the World Cup, which is an international soccer tournament held every four years. There is one tournament for men and another for women. More than a billion people around the world watch the World Cup on television.

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) was founded in 1904. In 1930 the first World Cup tournament was held in Uruguay with just 13 teams. Now teams from some 200 countries participate in elimination games within their own regions before qualifying as one of the 32 nations in the final tournament.

The original World Cup trophy was given permanently to Brazil to honor that country's record third World Cup title in Mexico in 1970.

Many soccer fans consider Pelé, the Brazilian forward, the best soccer player of all time. He won fame for his amazing ball control and powerful shots. In 1986, Mexico became the first nation to host the World Cup twice. The 2002 World Cup was first held in Asia by Japan and Korea.

The Women's World Cup first took place in 1991 in China and has gained popularity steadily since then. China was named host of the 2003 Women's World Cup, but the competition was moved to the United States after severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) emerged as a serious health problem in China. Nearly 100 nations attempted to qualify for the 2003 event.

a) *The following statements can be true (T) or false (F). Check (✓) the appropriate boxes. Then correct the false statements.*

	T	F
1. Thirty-two nations participated in the first World Cup tournament.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The first time Brazil won the World Cup was in 1970.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Mexico hosted the World Cup for the second time in 1986.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The 2002 World Cup was held in two Asian countries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The 2003 Women's World Cup was held in the United States.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) *Read the text again and answer the following questions.*

1. When was FIFA founded?
2. How do you know that soccer is the most popular sport throughout the world?
3. Why do many soccer fans consider Pelé the all-time best soccer player?
4. When and where was the first Women's World Cup held?
5. Why was the 2003 Women's World Cup moved from China to the United States?

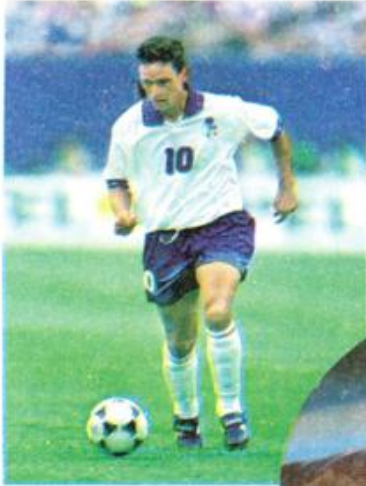
c) *Complete the following sentences with suitable words from the reading.*

1. Why is soccer so _____ throughout the world?
2. How many teams _____ in this tournament?
3. Our team got all the way through to the _____ tournament before being beaten.
4. A great cheer went up from the crowd when he held the _____ proudly aloft.
5. Will our team attempt to _____ for the World Cup next year?

d) *Work in groups. Tell your partners what you know about soccer tournaments in Viet Nam.*

 **LISTENING**

a) What games are people playing in the pictures below?



a



b



c



d



e

b) You are going to listen to five reports of athletes at their games. Match the recordings with the correct pictures.

c) Listen to the recordings again and complete the following sentences.

1. Baggio places _____ in front of the goalmouth and walks slowly back. Then, he _____ and kicks.
2. Capriati _____ cross-court and all her opponent could do was to watch _____ out of her reach.

3. The favorite, Disneyland, jumped badly at _____ fence and almost _____ the jockey.
4. So far he has won both the men's 100 meters _____ and 50 meters _____.
5. Jack attacks consistently and with just a move of the _____ he puts the opponent's castle and knight under _____.

d) *Listen to the commentary of a game between the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers and answer the following questions.*

1. What sport is being played?
2. Who won the first game?
3. What is the score in this game now?
4. Who is favored in this game?
5. What do the fans anticipate?

e) *Work in groups. Report on a sporting event you have recently watched or participated in.*



SPEAKING

Describing Popular Sports

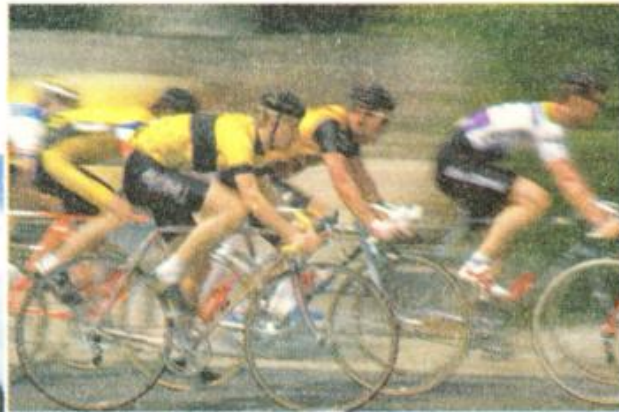
a) *What games are people playing in the pictures below? Work with a partner. Take turns to talk about the pictures.*



a



b



f



g

b) In groups, describe how people play the games above.

- How many players take part in the game?
- Does it need any equipment?
- What are the rules of playing the game?
- How do players score or win the game?
- How long does the game last?

Prompts

- soccer
- basketball / two teams of five players / large ball / high net hanging from a ring
- hurdles / runners or horses / race / jump over / a series of upright frames
- tennis / two or four players / tennis racket / ball / net / court
- volleyball / two teams of six players / their hands / large ball / net / not to let the ball touch the ground on their own side
- table tennis / two or four players / bat / plastic ball / net / table

Example

Describing How to Play Soccer

Each soccer team has 11 players.

Players can use any part of their bodies to hit the ball, except their arms. Players generally use their feet and heads as they kick, dribble, and pass the ball toward the goal. The goalkeeper is the only player allowed to touch the ball with the hands while the ball is in play.

The other players are divided into defenders, midfielders, and forwards. Defenders try to stop the opposing team from reaching the goal with the ball. Forwards, also called strikers, do most of the scoring. Midfielders, or halfbacks, play defense but also try to score.

Most soccer games are 90 minutes long. They have two 45-minute halves divided by a fifteen-minute break, or halftime.

c) Work in groups. Take turns to talk about your favorite sport and how you benefit from it.



WRITING

Writing an Announcement

- a) Read the following announcement. In pairs, make a Wh-question and an answer for each line of the announcement.

 Example

Who is the announcer?

Le Van Minh, Manager of the Sports Club.

SPORTS CLUB

In Celebration of the Youth League's Foundation Day

Friendly Volleyball Match

Local Language School vs. Sports Club

4 p.m. Saturday, March 07, 200__

School stadium

All students are invited.

Le Van Minh
Manager of the Sports Club

- b) Write an announcement of a sporting event or an activity in your school.
- c) Read your friend's writing and report to the whole class on what you have read.



LANGUAGE FOCUS

Word Study

Words Used in Soccer

- a) Use the correct forms of the words given to fill in the blanks. You can use one word twice.

win

beat

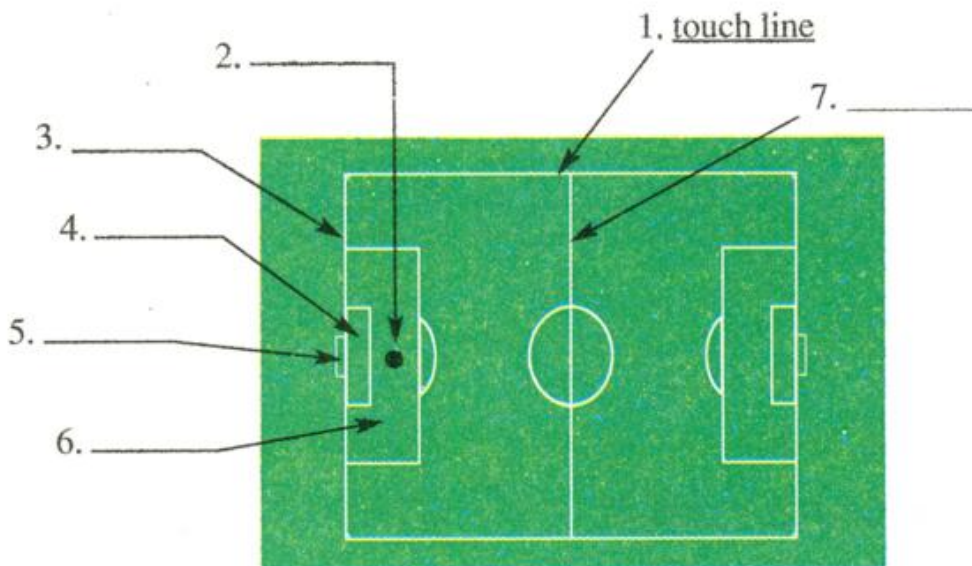
defeat

score

1. Our team was easily _____ in the first round of the competition.
2. Our hopes and ambitions for this tournament have been _____ by the weather.
3. Do you know how many times Italy _____ the World Cup Championship?
4. Has either team _____ yet?

b) *Locate the following on the map of a soccer field, using the words and phrases in the box.*

goal line	penalty spot	center line	touch line
penalty area	goal	goal area	



Grammar

To + Base Form of Verb Expressing Purposes

To + Base Form of Verb As Modifier

a) Check (✓) the sentences in which the underlined parts express purposes.

1. The original World Cup trophy was given permanently to Brazil to honor that country's record third World Cup title.
2. In 1986, Mexico became the first nation to host the World Cup twice.
3. People do regular exercise to keep fit.
4. Is it the first team to qualify for the final?
5. Students are encouraged to take part in a team game to learn how to get along with others.
6. Students should manage their time wisely to participate in a kind of sports.
7. Is there any interesting soccer game to watch on TV tonight?
8. The referee can add extra time at the end of each half to make up for injury time.
9. A goalie guards the goal to prevent the other team from scoring.
10. He used the top of his foot to give the ball a powerful kick.

b) Rewrite the following sentences, using to + base form of verb phrases as modifiers.

1. In 1986 Mexico became the first nation that hosted the World Cup twice.
 In 1986 Mexico became the first nation to host the World Cup twice.
2. The goalkeeper is the only player who is allowed to touch the ball with his hands when the ball is in play.

3. Which nation became the first one that won the World Cup trophy three times?

4. It is an important rule you must follow in this game.

5. Was he the only player who scored in that game?

6. Cooperation is a lesson you can learn from team sports.
