

Reading Comprehension

Multiple Choice. Choose the best answer for each question.

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|-----------|---|
| Gist | 1. What is this passage mainly about?
a. the history of soccer
b. soccer clubs
c. the popularity of soccer
d. how African soccer began |
| Detail | 2. In the second paragraph, which of these is NOT given as a possible reason for soccer's popularity?
a. the team spirit among players
b. famous players from many different countries
c. the number of soccer games shown on TV
d. the possibility of making a lot of money |
| Detail | 3. What does the author mean by <i>It's a simple game.</i> (line 29)
a. The rules are easy for people to understand.
b. You can play it anywhere with anything.
c. You don't need talent to play soccer well.
d. There are many local versions of soccer. |
| Detail | 4. Where did soccer originate in Africa?
a. Ivory Coast
b. Ghana
c. South Africa
d. Cameroon |
| Reference | 5. What does <i>some</i> refer to in line 58?
a. poor boys
b. soccer academies
c. national teams
d. cities and towns |
| Detail | 6. Which of these statements about the Ivory Coast national team is NOT true?
a. Many of its best players are from immigrant families.
b. There are Muslim players on the team.
c. One of its players is Abubakari Abdul-Ganyu.
d. It has helped to encourage peace in the country. |
| Main Idea | 7. What is the main idea of the last paragraph?
a. More schools in Africa are opening soccer clubs.
b. Soccer helps people get better grades in school.
c. Soccer helps young people be more responsible.
d. Older soccer players help younger ones fit into society. |



Evaluating: T states that soc help *bring peop* What evidence to support the what ways mig such as soccer people rather them together

Discussion: I agree with the arguments for is so popular? reasons could its global popu

Critical Thinking

Scanning for Specific Information

Scanning is reading a text quickly to find specific pieces of information. Try these tips to help you scan effectively.

1. Decide what kind of information you need to scan for—a number, a person's name, a specific word or phrase, etc. Keep that word or phrase in mind as you read. For example, if you are scanning for the names of people or places, look for capitalized words.
2. Analyze the text before you scan. If the text is long, you may want to skim it first to determine where the information is likely to be.
3. Run your eyes over several lines of text at a time. When you find what you are searching for, read the entire sentence.

A. Scanning. For each item (1–5), decide what kind of information you need to scan for (for example, a place or a time). Then scan the reading on page 9, and note the answers.

1. when soccer first began _____
2. where soccer first began _____
3. where modern soccer began _____
4. when modern soccer began _____
5. a famous player from Portugal _____

B. Scanning. Scan the reading on pages 9–11 and circle **T** (True) or **F** (False) for each of the sentences below.

1. Cristiano Ronaldo is from a rich family. **T F**
2. Soccer is popular in Africa because of its simplicity. **T F**
3. Soccer spread in Africa from south to north. **T F**
4. Many of Ivory Coast's best players are from Muslim and immigrant families. **T F**
5. Abubakari Abdul-Ganiyu describes soccer as a tool for hope. **T F**



Vocabulary Practice

A. Completion. Complete the information by circling the correct word in each pair.

Over the past two decades, Asian soccer-playing nations such as Japan, China, and South Korea have worked together to raise interest in the sport. This led to the first World Cup to be held in Asia, in 2002. The 1. (**competition** / **defeat**) was 2. (**unique** / **universal**) because it was co-hosted by two countries: South Korea and Japan. A total of 32 teams 3. (**participated** / **established**) in the tournament. The eventual winner was Brazil, who achieved 4. (**defeat** / **victory**) by beating Germany 2–0 in the final. Overall, the event was a great success: It helped to 5. (**participate** / **promote**) cooperation among nations and was 6. (**responsible** / **unified**) for creating a new generation of soccer fans across Asia.

B. Words in Context. Complete each sentence with the correct answer.

- If someone **establishes** something (e.g., an organization), they _____ it.
 - create
 - destroy
- In sports, if you **defeat** another team, you _____.
 - win and they lose
 - lose and they win
- If something is **universal**, it relates to _____.
 - a few people
 - all people
- Something or someone that **unifies** people causes them to _____.
 - come together
 - separate

Word Link The prefix **uni-** means “one” or “single,” e.g., *unify*, *universal*, *unique*, *unite*, *uniform*.

▼ Brazil's Ronaldo trophy after he won the World Cup in Yokohama, Japan

