



# FIFA World Cup Trivia Quiz

(status as before 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™)

1. Which countries have won the FIFA World Cup™? Have they all played against each other at the FIFA World Cup™?

Argentina, Brazil, England, France, Germany, Italy and Uruguay. They have all played against each other at the FIFA World Cup™, although Brazil and Germany did not meet until 2002. (For the record, in 1974 Brazil met the German DR, a country that disappeared following German reunification in 1990.)

2. Which countries have successfully defended a FIFA World Cup™ title?

Brazil and Italy – Italy in 1938, Brazil in 1962.

3. How many confederations have provided FIFA World Cup™ winners? Which confederation has provided the most winners?

Only two confederations have ever provided FIFA World Cup™ winners: CONMEBOL (South America) and UEFA (Europe). Both are currently even with nine titles each.

4. Which culture predominates amongst the champions?

Of the 18 FIFA World Cups™ played to date, 14 have been won by Latin countries: Brazil (1958/62/70/94/2002), Italy (1934/38/82/2006), Argentina (1978/86), Uruguay (1930/50) and France (1998). The other four titles went to Germany FR (1954/74/90) and England (1966). The numbers in brackets are the years they won.

5. Name the champions, runners-up, and third- and fourth-placed teams in each FIFA World Cup™.

1930 Uruguay – Argentina – USA – Yugoslavia  
1934 Italy – Czechoslovakia – Germany – Austria  
1938 Italy – Hungary – Brazil – Sweden  
1950 Uruguay – Brazil – Sweden – Spain  
1954 Germany FR – Hungary – Austria – Uruguay  
1958 Brazil – Sweden – France – Germany FR  
1962 Brazil – Czechoslovakia – Chile – Yugoslavia  
1966 England – Germany FR – Portugal – SOVIET UNION  
1970 Brazil – Italy – Germany FR – Uruguay  
1974 Germany FR – Netherlands – Poland – Brazil  
1978 Argentina – Netherlands – Brazil – Italy  
1982 Italy – Germany FR – Poland – France  
1986 Argentina – Germany FR – France – Belgium  
1990 Germany FR – Argentina – Italy – England  
1994 Brazil – Italy – Sweden – Bulgaria  
1998 France – Brazil – Croatia – Netherlands  
2002 Brazil – Germany – Turkey – Korea Republic  
2006 Italy – France – Germany – Portugal

In 1930, Yugoslavia declined to play for third place and the USA are therefore regarded as having finished third. Germany was divided into the German DR and Germany FR after World War II and reunified in 1990, the reunified Germany continuing the record of the former Germany FR.



6. Has any FIFA World Cup™ had four semi-finalists that were all former or defending champions?

Yes, this has happened twice so far, in 1970 and 1990. In 1970, the semi-finalists were Brazil (1958/62), Italy (1934/38), Germany FR (1954) and Uruguay (1930/50), in 1990, they were Germany FR (1954/74), Argentina (1978/86), Italy (1934/38/82) and England (1966). The numbers in brackets are the years they won.

7. CONMEBOL and UEFA have a monopoly on FIFA World Cup™ winners, but were they the only confederations to have been represented in the semi-finals before the AFC (Asia) joined them in 2002, when Korea Republic finished fourth?

No, they were not. At the first FIFA World Cup™, held in 1930, the USA also reached the semis. The official rankings do not show this fact – the rankings only show champions Uruguay and runners-up Argentina because Yugoslavia (the other semi-finalists) declined to play the USA for third place. The USA are, however, regarded as having finished third due to Yugoslavia's forfeit.

8. Has there ever been a FIFA World Cup™ in which the European or South American teams failed to win a single match?

Yes, in 1934, South American teams failed to chalk up a win at the FIFA World Cup™ when Brazil and Argentina (the only South Americans at this tournament) were eliminated by Spain and Sweden respectively. This FIFA World Cup™ was played entirely in a knockout format. There has never been a FIFA World Cup™ without a victory by a European team.

9. Have two non-European "outsiders" ever qualified for the second round at the expense of two European teams?

Yes, twice. In 1998 (Group 4: Nigeria and Paraguay through, Spain and Bulgaria out) and in 2002 (Group 4: Korea Republic and the USA through, Portugal and Poland out).

There was something of a mini-precedent in 1990 when Scotland and Sweden were eliminated from Group 3 by Brazil and newcomers Costa Rica.

10. Have all of the world champions won a FIFA World Cup™ title on home soil?

No, Brazil were only runners-up to Uruguay at their "own" FIFA World Cup™ in 1950. Brazil have won all of their titles abroad (Sweden 1958, Chile 1962, Mexico 1970, USA 1994, Korea/Japan 2002). All of the other champions have (also) won at home.

11. How many countries have won a FIFA World Cup™ outside of their own confederation?

Brazil have won in Europe (Sweden 1958), Central America (Mexico 1970), North America (USA 1994) and Asia (Korea/Japan 2002), whereas Argentina have triumphed in Central America (Mexico 1986). Both have won outside of their own confederation and outside of their own hemisphere. No European team has won outside of Europe yet.

12. Which countries have met most often at the FIFA World Cup™? And at the most consecutive FIFA World Cups™?

Brazil and Sweden have met seven times at six FIFA World Cups™: 1938, 1950, 1958, 1978, 1990 and 1994. In 1994 they met twice, in the first round and in the semi-finals. Argentina and Italy met at five straight FIFA World Cups™: 1974, 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1990.

13. Have two countries ever met in two separate finals?

Yes, this has happened twice so far: Argentina and Germany FR met in the final in 1986 and 1990, whereas Brazil and Italy met in both 1970 and 1994.



14. How often have the hosts won the FIFA World Cup™? How often have they finished second? Third? Fourth?

The hosts have won on six occasions so far: Uruguay (1930), Italy (1934), England (1966), Germany FR (1974), Argentina (1978) and France (1998). They have been runners-up twice – Brazil (1950), Sweden (1958). They have also finished third twice – Chile (1962), Italy (1990) – and fourth once: Korea Republic (co-hosts 2002).

15. At which FIFA World Cups™ were the hosts knocked out before the semi-finals?

The hosts were eliminated before the semi-finals in 1938 (France), 1954 (Switzerland), 1970 (Mexico), 1982 (Spain), 1986 (Mexico again) and 1994 (USA). In 2002, co-hosts Japan were eliminated, but Korea Republic (the other co-hosts) finished fourth.

16. As of the 2006 FIFA World Cup™, the holders no longer qualify automatically for the next FIFA World Cup™. Have the hosts ever had to play in the qualifiers?

Yes. Italy (hosts in 1934) had to play in the qualifiers for that FIFA World Cup™.

17. Have the defending champions ever been eliminated at the end of the group stage?

Yes, three times so far: Italy in 1950 (champions in 1938), Brazil in 1966 (champions in 1962) and France in 2002 (champions in 1998).

18. How many FIFA World Cups™ have had all-European semi-finalists?

Four: 1934 (Italy, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Austria), 1966 (England, Germany FR, Portugal, SOVIET UNION), 1982 (Italy, Germany FR, Poland, France) and 2006 (Italy, France, Germany, Portugal).

19. Name the top scorer(s) of each FIFA World Cup™.

**1930** Stábile [Argentina] with 8 goals – **1934** Nejedlý [Czechoslovakia] with 5 goals – **1938** Leônidas [Brazil] with 7 goals – **1950** Ademir [Brazil] with 8 goals – **1954** Kocsis [Hungary] with 11 goals – **1958** Fontaine [France] with 13 goals – **1962** Garrincha, Vavá [Brazil], Leonel Sánchez [Chile], Albert [Hungary], Ivanov [SOVIET UNION], Jerković [Yugoslavia], all with 4 goals – **1966** Eusébio [Portugal] with 9 goals – **1970** Müller [Germany FR] with 10 goals – **1974** Lato [Poland] with 7 goals – **1978** Kempes [Argentina] with 6 goals – **1982** Rossi [Italy] with 6 goals – **1986** Lineker [England] with 6 goals – **1990** Schillaci [Italy] with 6 goals – **1994** Salenko [Russia], Stoichkov [Bulgaria], both with 6 goals – **1998** Šuker [Croatia] with 6 goals – **2002** Ronaldo [Brazil] with 8 goals – **2006** Klose [Germany] with 5 goals.

20. Who scored the first-ever FIFA World Cup™ goal?

The first-ever goal in the FIFA World Cup™ was scored by France's Lucien Laurent against Mexico after 19 minutes on 13 July 1930.

21. Who was the first player to score two goals in the same match at a FIFA World Cup™? Who was the first to score three? Four? More?

At the FIFA World Cup™ in 1930, André Maschinot of France became the first player to score two goals in the same match when he found the back of the net against Mexico after 42 and 87 minutes. Ivan Bek of Yugoslavia became the first player to score two goals in the same half: against Bolivia after 60 and 67 minutes.

Also in 1930, Bert Patenaude of the USA became the first player to score three goals in the same match when he scored against Paraguay after 10, 15 and 50 minutes.

Ernest Wilimowski of Poland was the first player to score four goals in the same match, against Brazil in 1938. (Nevertheless, the final score was still Brazil 6-5 Poland.)



Oleg Salenko of Russia was the first player to score five goals in the same match, against Cameroon in 1994. (This was his country's only win, though, and Salenko also became the first FIFA World Cup™ top scorer to be eliminated in the first round.)

22. Who holds the record for the fastest goal at the FIFA World Cup™? And in the qualifying rounds?

The fastest goal at a FIFA World Cup™ was scored after 11 seconds by Hakan Şükür of Turkey against Korea Republic in 2002. Including the preliminaries, the fastest-ever FIFA World Cup™ goal was scored after just 8.3 seconds by Davide Gualtieri of San Marino against England during the 1994 qualifiers.

23. Who scored the first own goal at the FIFA World Cup™? Has a player ever scored an own goal and then redeemed himself with the equaliser?

The first own goal at a FIFA World Cup™ was scored in 1930 by Manuel Rosas of Mexico during a match against Chile. As for scoring a goal for each side, only one player has ever done this: in 1978, Ernie Brandts of the Netherlands opened the scoring for Italy in the 19<sup>th</sup> minute, and then scored the equaliser in the 50<sup>th</sup>.

24. Has there ever been a match at a FIFA World Cup™ with more than one own goal?

The USA-Portugal match in 2002 featured two own goals, one by each side.

25. How many players have played for different countries at the FIFA World Cup™?

So far, six. Atilio Demaría and Luis Monti both played for Argentina in 1930 and for Italy in 1934. Ferenc Puskás played for Hungary in 1954 and for Spain in 1962. José Emilio Santamaría played for Uruguay in 1954 and for Spain in 1962. José João "Mazzola" Altafini played for Brazil in 1958 and for Italy in 1962. Robert Prosinečki played for Yugoslavia in 1990 and for Croatia in 1998.

Savo Milošević and Dejan Stanković played for Yugoslavia in 1998 and for Serbia and Montenegro in 2006, although in their case it was only the country changing name. (After losing Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia in 1991 and then Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1992, Yugoslavia was renamed as Serbia and Montenegro in 2003, but then Montenegro left the union with Serbia in 2006.)

26. Has a player ever scored for different countries at the FIFA World Cup™?

Yes. Robert Prosinečki scored for Yugoslavia against the United Arab Emirates in 1990, and for Croatia against Jamaica and the Netherlands in 1998.

27. Has any player ever scored in consecutive FIFA World Cup™ finals?

Vavá of Brazil is the only player to have scored in consecutive FIFA World Cup finals. He scored two goals against Sweden in 1958 and one against Czechoslovakia in 1962. Pelé of Brazil and Paul Breitner of Germany FR are the only players to have scored in non-consecutive finals. Pelé scored twice against Sweden in 1958 and once against Italy in 1970, whereas Breitner converted a penalty against the Netherlands in 1974 and also scored against Italy in 1982.

28. Who is the oldest player to have scored at a FIFA World Cup™? How old was he when he scored?

Roger Milla of Cameroon was 42 when he scored against Russia during the FIFA World Cup™ in 1994.

29. Several players have appeared in two finals, but has any player ever appeared in more than two finals?

Yes, Cafu of Brazil, who played in the final in 1994, 1998 and 2002.



30. Has any player ever scored past two different goalkeepers during a single game at the FIFA World Cup™?
- Yes, this has happened twice so far. In 1978, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge of Germany FR scored against Mexico after 37 and 71 minutes, beating José Reyes and substitute Pedro Soto, who replaced Reyes after 39 minutes. In 1986, Ramón María Calderé of Spain scored against Algeria after 15 and 68 minutes, beating Nasser Drid and substitute Larbi el-Hadi, who replaced Drid after 20 minutes.
31. What is the highest-scoring draw at a FIFA World Cup™?
- 4-4. There have been two 4-4 draws so far: England 4-4 Belgium (1954) and SOVIET UNION 4-4 Colombia (1962).
32. Which country holds the record for progressing the furthest at a FIFA World Cup™ without winning a single game?
- In 1990, the Republic of Ireland drew four consecutive matches (the fourth was resolved in a penalty shoot-out) and reached the quarter-finals without winning a single game.
33. What is the fewest number of matches that a team has played to reach the FIFA World Cup™ semi-finals?
- In 1938, Sweden reached the semis after playing only a single match. They had been drawn to play Austria, but received a bye to the second round when Austria was annexed by Germany and had to withdraw from the World Cup. Sweden eventually finished fourth, having played only three matches in all, a record for the fewest number of games played to progress so far. The early FIFA World Cups™ featured fewer matches, and teams could reach the semis after as little as two matches.
- In 1950, there were no semi-finals, only a first round with four groups, the winners of which made up the final pool, which was played on a league basis. This final pool was like reaching the semis. Due to withdrawals and uneven groupings, Group IV in 1950 only had two teams, Uruguay and Bolivia, who had to play only a single match to decide which of them would progress to the final pool. Seen in this context, Uruguay also reached the semis after a single match, although they then played another three to make a total of four games.
34. Has there ever been a FIFA World Cup™ without a drawn match?
- Yes. To date, the first FIFA World Cup™ (1930) is the only competition without a drawn match.
35. Which FIFA World Cup™ was the first to have a scoreless draw?
- Sweden 1958 (the sixth FIFA World Cup™), which had two goalless draws: Brazil 0-0 England and Sweden 0-0 Wales.
36. Has a team ever lost all of its matches at a FIFA World Cup™ by the same scoreline?
- Yes. In 1990, Sweden lost all three of their group matches – against Brazil, Scotland and Costa Rica – 2-1.
37. Which country holds the record for scoring the highest number of goals at a single FIFA World Cup™? Which country holds the record for conceding the most goals?
- In 1954, Hungary scored a total of 27 goals in five matches at an average of 5.40 goals per match. Korea Republic hold the record for letting in the most goals at a single FIFA World Cup™, conceding 16 goals in two matches in 1954 without scoring themselves.
38. Of the teams that have played in at least two FIFA World Cups™, has any team finished bottom every time? Has any team finished bottom in consecutive tournaments? Who holds the record for finishing bottom most often?



El Salvador have played in two FIFA World Cups™ (1970/82), and they finished last both times. Switzerland are the only team to have brought up the rear at consecutive tournaments (1962/66). Mexico have finished bottom three times so far (1930/58/78), more than any other team.

39. Which team boasts the best-ever defensive record at a FIFA World Cup™?

The best defensive record is held by Germany. In 2002, they conceded 3 goals in 7 matches. If penalty kicks are not included, in 1990 Italy let in 2 goals in 7 matches, including none at all until the semi-final against Argentina (which was 1-1 at the end of extra time and was resolved on penalty kicks). Italy then beat England 2-1 in the play-off for third place.

40. What is the highest number of matches that a country has gone at a FIFA World Cup™ without conceding a goal?

In 1990, Italy held out for five consecutive matches. Only three countries have been able to hold out for four: Brazil in 1958, 1974, 1978 and 1986; England in 1966 and 1982; and Germany in 1978 and 2002 (in 1978 as Germany FR).

41. Which player holds the record for scoring the most goals at a FIFA World Cup™? Which player holds the record for the most goals across all of the FIFA World Cups™ that he played in?

In 1958, Just Fontaine of France set the all-time record of 13 goals. Gerd Müller of Germany FR scored a total of 14 goals at two FIFA World Cups™: 10 in 1970 and 4 in 1974.

42. Which player holds the record for the most goals in a FIFA World Cup™ match?

In 1994, Oleg Salenko of Russia scored five goals against Cameroon.

43. Which player holds the record for the most goals in a FIFA World Cup™ final?

England's Sir Geoff Hurst holds the record, with three goals against Germany FR in 1966.

44. What is the highest number of goals scored by a team in a match when all goals were scored by different players?

Five, which has happened twice so far: 1982 Poland 5-1 Peru (Smolarek, Lato, Boniek, Buncol, Ciolek), and 1998 Netherlands 5-0 Korea Republic (Cocu, Overmars, Bergkamp, van Hooijdonk, Ronald de Boer).

45. Counting only semi-finalist teams, has any player ever scored in every match played by his country in a FIFA World Cup™?

Yes, four players have achieved this feat: Nyberg of Sweden (1938), Ghiggia of Uruguay (1950), Fontaine of France (1958) and Jairzinho of Brazil (1970). Counting teams eliminated before reaching the semi-finals but which played at least three matches, there are also three others: Corbatta of Argentina (1958), Bene of Hungary (1966) and Cubillas of Peru (1970).

46. What is the record for the most goals scored by two players who were on opposing sides in a FIFA World Cup™ match?

When Brazil beat Poland 6-5 in 1938, Leônidas of Brazil scored three goals and Ernest Wilimowski of Poland four. The next highest was three each when Austria beat Switzerland 7-5 in 1954, with Wagner of Austria and Hūgi of Switzerland both scoring three.

Two players on opposing sides have often scored two goals apiece, but in one particular match three players scored a brace: when England and Belgium drew 4-4 in 1954, Ivan Broadis, Nat Lofthouse (both England) and Pol Anoul (Belgium) all scored two goals each.

47. Which team once scored three goals in four minutes in a FIFA World Cup™ match?



During the Switzerland-Austria quarter-final in 1954, Switzerland scored three goals in four minutes: Ballaman after 15 minutes, Hügi after 16 and 18.



48. Which player has made the most appearances at the FIFA World Cup™?

Lothar Matthäus of Germany made a total of 25 appearances at five FIFA World Cups™. He played for Germany FR in 1982 (2), 1986 (7) and 1990 (7), and for the reunified Germany in 1994 (5) and 1998 (4). The numbers in brackets indicate the number of matches he played at each FIFA World Cup™.

49. Who holds the record for the shortest FIFA World Cup™ career?

So far, two substitutes hold the record after playing for about one minute in their only FIFA World Cup™ match: Magnus Erlingmark of Sweden and Petar Mikhtarski of Bulgaria, both in 1994. Erlingmark came on for Joachim Björklund in the 89<sup>th</sup> minute during the match against Russia, and Mikhtarski replaced Emil Kostadinov in the 119<sup>th</sup> minute during the match against Mexico.

The previous mark, two minutes, is not quite so rare, but it is noteworthy that Marcelo Trobbiani of Argentina earned a winner's medal after coming on for Jorge Burruchaga in the last minute during the final against Germany FR in 1986. This was also his only FIFA World Cup™ match.

50. What is the highest number of FIFA World Cups™ that a player has attended without playing a single minute?

The most FIFA World Cups™ that a player has attended as a non-playing substitute is three. Francisco Urruticoechea of Spain was a substitute at three consecutive FIFA World Cups™ (1978/82/86). Carlos José de Castilho of Brazil was a substitute in 1950/58/62, but he did play in 1954.

51. The third and fourth FIFA World Cups™ – in 1938 and 1950 – were 12 years apart because of World War II. Did any player attend both tournaments?

Yes, Erik Nilsson of Sweden and Alfred Bickel of Switzerland.

52. What is the biggest margin of victory at the FIFA World Cup™? And in the FIFA World Cup™ qualifiers?

The biggest margin of victory at the FIFA World Cup™ is Hungary 10-1 El Salvador in 1982. Counting the qualifiers, the biggest margin of victory is Australia 31-0 American Samoa during the Oceanian 2002 preliminaries. Australia actually scored 32 goals, but had one disallowed. (Interestingly, American Samoa had major difficulties in finding enough players and so fielded an amateur side that included several high-school students who were barely old enough to play in a senior national team.)

53. What is the highest football score on record?

The highest score on record comes from the Scottish Cup of 1884-85. On 12 September 1884, Arbroath beat Bon Accord 36-0 – and Arbroath had seven goals disallowed for offside. But for the lack of nets and the time taken to retrieve the ball, the score might have been even higher! (Goals were first fitted with nets in 1890.) It is not always mentioned that the invitation for the match was sent in error to the cricket club of Bon Accord, who fulfilled the fixture and played in big, heavy boots.

54. Which FIFA World Cup™ match holds the record for the most goals?

The highest aggregate score for a single match is 12 goals, when Austria beat Switzerland 7-5 at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1954. (The next highest aggregate, 11 goals, has been achieved three times so far: 1938 Brazil 6-5 Poland, 1954 Germany FR 8-3 Turkey, 1982 Hungary 10-1 El Salvador.)

55. What is the highest attendance on record for a FIFA World Cup™ match?

The highest attendance is estimated at 205,000 for the final between Brazil and Uruguay in 1950. Of this figure, 199,854 were recorded officially and 173,850 paid admission.





56. Which is the largest open stadium in the world?

The Maracanã stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is the world's largest football stadium. The largest open stadium is the Strahov Stadium in Prague, Czech Republic. It was completed in 1934 and can accommodate 240,000 spectators. It was built for mass displays by gymnasts, 40,000 of whom can fit in the arena.

57. Which FIFA World Cup™ team has had the most players with the same surname? The most brothers?

In 1990, the United Arab Emirates had a team with six players named Mubarak: Khalil Ghanim Mubarak and Mubarak Ghanim Mubarak (one set of brothers) and Fahad Khamis Mubarak and Nasser Khamis Mubarak (another set of brothers), as well as Khalid Ismail Mubarak and Mohamed Salim Mubarak, who were not related to each other or to any of the other four. As for brothers, this team also had three sets: Eissa Meer Abdulrahman and Ibrahim Meer Abdulrahman, Fahad Khamis Mubarak and Nasser Khamis Mubarak, and Khalil Ghanim Mubarak and Mubarak Ghanim Mubarak.

58. Who holds the record for the fastest dismissal at the FIFA World Cup™?

The record for the fastest dismissal at a FIFA World Cup™ is held by José Batista of Uruguay, who was sent off 53 seconds into the match against Scotland in 1986.

59. Has any player ever been sent off in more than one FIFA World Cup™?

Bahanag Rigobert Song of Cameroon was the first player to be sent off at two final rounds, in 1994 and 1998.

60. Has a player ever been booked after a match?

After the final whistle of Uruguay-France in 1966, Jacques Simon of France was booked for spitting in referee Galba's direction as the French team was leaving the field.

61. Has a FIFA World Cup™ match ever been called off?

Not yet, but the opening match between England and Uruguay in 1966 was almost called off when Hungarian referee István Zsolt discovered that seven of the English players had left their identity cards at the hotel. Zsolt insisted: no cards, no match. A police motorcyclist was dispatched to collect them from the hotel.

62. Before the introduction of teams of match officials, had there ever been a FIFA World Cup™ match with three match officials from the same country?

Yes, there had been four FIFA World Cup™ matches with all three officials from the same country. Invariably, they were from the country hosting the FIFA World Cup™.

1934 Hungary-Egypt: Barlassina, Sassi, Dattilo [Italy]

1938 Brazil-Czechoslovakia [replay]: Capdeville, Kissenberger, Marengo [France]

1978 Germany FR-Poland: Coerezza, Ithurralde, Comesaña [Argentina]

1982 Brazil-SOVIET UNION: Lamo Castillo, Sánchez Arminio, García Carrión [Spain]

In 1994, FIFA introduced teams of match officials to improve the standard of refereeing, and by 1998 this had become the rule. Officials from countries with similar cultures have also been assigned to the same fixture; e.g. the semi-final Brazil-Netherlands in 1998 was officiated by Bujsaim [United Arab Emirates], al-Ghadhanfari [Kuwait] and al-Musawi [Oman].



63. How many finals have been officiated by a non-European referee?

So far, five non-European referees have taken charge of a final, four of them from Latin America.

1982 Italy 3-1 Germany FR: Coelho [Brazil]  
1986 Argentina 3-2 Germany FR: Arppi Filho [Brazil]  
1990 Argentina 0-1 Germany FR: Codesal Méndez [Mexico]  
1998 France 3-0 Brazil: Belqola [Morocco]  
2006 Italy 1-1(5-3) France: Elizondo [Argentina]

64. Who was the first African referee to take charge of a match at a FIFA World Cup™?

The first African referee to take charge of a match at a FIFA World Cup™ was Col. Ali Hussein Kandil of the UAR (now Egypt), who refereed Korea DPR 1-1 Chile in 1966.

65. What was perhaps the most diplomatic piece of refereeing ever seen at a FIFA World Cup™?

The most diplomatic piece of refereeing must have been by Belgian referee John Langenus in 1930. At the outset of the final between Uruguay and Argentina, a dispute erupted about the ball. Langenus decided that each half would be played with a ball from one of the teams. Argentina won the draw and kicked off the first half with an Argentinian ball. The second half was then played with a Uruguayan ball.

66. The referee's word is usually final, but has a referee ever let himself be overruled by an outsider and rescinded a decision during a FIFA World Cup™ match?

During the France-Kuwait match at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1982, a spectator in the stands blew a whistle and the Kuwaiti players stopped, thinking it had been referee. Giresse of France took the opportunity and scored. When referee Stupar gave the goal, the Kuwaiti prince came down from the stands and threatened to take the Kuwaiti team off the field, upon which Stupar gave in and disallowed the goal. The next day, the referee was suspended and the Kuwaiti FA fined USD 11,000, which they paid out of the petty cash.

67. How many countries played at the first FIFA World Cup™ (1930)? Can you name them?

There were 13 participants at the first FIFA World Cup™: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay from South America; Belgium, France, Romania and Yugoslavia from Europe; and the USA and Mexico from North and Central America.

68. Have any of the original 13 teams from the first FIFA World Cup™ (1930) played in all of the other FIFA World Cups™?

Yes, Brazil are the only team to have achieved this feat, having played in all FIFA World Cups™ to date.

69. Ever since yellow and red cards were introduced at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1970, has there ever been a FIFA World Cup™ without a red card? Has there ever been a first-round group with no cards whatsoever?

There were no red cards at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1970. Group IV in 1970 is the only group to date to have had no cards whatsoever. (Two other groups came close with five of six matches without any cards: Group II in 1978 and Group VI in 1982.)

70. Ever since yellow and red cards were introduced at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1970, has any team ever completed a FIFA World Cup™ with no cards whatsoever?

Yes, Bulgaria, Morocco and Peru achieved this feat in 1970, as did New Zealand in 1982, and Hungary in 1986.



71. Has a referee ever represented two different countries at the FIFA World Cup™?

Yes, the Austrian referee Alois Beranek officiated as an Austrian referee at the FIFA World Cups™ in 1934 and 1950, and as a German official in 1938. Austria had been annexed by Germany on 13 March 1938, two-and-a-half months before the beginning of the FIFA World Cup™ that year.

72. How many countries have been knocked out of a FIFA World Cup™ without losing a single game?

So far, six: Scotland in 1974; Brazil in 1978; Cameroon, England and the SOVIET UNION in 1982; and Belgium in 1998. In 2006, Switzerland were eliminated on penalties in the Round of 16 without having conceded a single goal in regular or extra-time in four matches.

73. Has any country ever won a FIFA World Cup™ having lost a match in the first round?

Yes both Germany FR (1954/74) and Argentina (1978) won the title after losing a match in the first round, Germany FR to Hungary (1954) and the German DR (1974), Argentina to Italy (1978). For the record, in 1982 Italy won the title after drawing all three of their first-round group matches.

74. Has there ever been a first-round group in which all of the teams came from the same confederation?

Yes, this has happened twice.  
1950, Group 4: Uruguay, Bolivia  
1954, Group 4: England, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium

75. Has there ever been a first-round group in which every team came from a different confederation?

Yes, this has happened six times.  
1930, Group 4: USA, Paraguay, Belgium  
1986, Group 2: Mexico, Paraguay, Belgium, Iraq  
1998, Group 8: Argentina, Croatia, Jamaica, Japan  
2002, Group 3: Brazil, Turkey, China, Costa Rica  
2006, Group 4: Portugal, Mexico, Angola, Iran  
2006, Group 6: Brazil, Australia, Croatia, Japan

Australia, who left the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) to join the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) in 2005, still played as a representative of Oceania in 2006 having qualified from that region for the 2006 finals.

76. The first FIFA World Cup™ aside, has there ever been a first-round group with more than one newcomer?

Yes, this has happened six times so far (newcomers in italics).  
1954, Group 2: Hungary, Germany FR, Turkey, Korea Republic  
1974, Group 1: German DR, Germany FR, Chile, Australia  
1994, Group 4: Nigeria, Bulgaria, Argentina, Greece  
1998, Group 8: Argentina, Croatia, Jamaica, Japan  
2006, Group 3: Argentina, Netherlands, Côte d'Ivoire, Serbia and Montenegro  
2006, Group 5: Italy, Ghana, Czech Republic, USA

77. Disregarding the first FIFA World Cup™, has there ever been a newcomer in every group?

Not yet, but 2006 came close with six of the eight groups featuring at least one new team. This FIFA World Cup™ also had the most newcomers (with eight).

2006, Group 2: England, Sweden, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago  
2006, Group 3: Argentina, Netherlands, Côte d'Ivoire, Serbia and Montenegro  
2006, Group 4: Portugal, Mexico, Angola, Iran  
2006, Group 5: Italy, Ghana, Czech Republic, USA  
2006, Group 7: Switzerland, France, Korea Republic, Togo  
2006, Group 8: Spain, Ukraine, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia



With a higher ratio (83%) but lower absolute numbers (5/6 vs. 6/8), 1982 had a new team in five of the six groups. This FIFA World Cup™ held the previous record of five newcomers.

1982, Group 1: Italy, Poland, Peru, Cameroon  
1982, Group 2: Germany FR, Austria, Chile, Algeria  
1982, Group 4: England, France, Czechoslovakia, Kuwait  
1982, Group 5: Spain, Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia, Honduras  
1982, Group 6: Brazil, SOVIET UNION, Scotland, New Zealand

The FIFA World Cups™ in 1958, 1970 and 1974 all had newcomers in three of four groups.

78. Has there ever been a FIFA World Cup™ without a newcomer? Which FIFA World Cup™ had the most?

Not yet. The least so far was one newcomer – England in 1950 – and the most, eight, in 2006: Angola, the Czech Republic, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Serbia and Montenegro, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ukraine.

79. Not counting the first two FIFA World Cups™ (1930 and 1934), which confederation has sent the most newcomers to a final competition? How many?

Four African teams made their debut in 2006: Angola, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo. Prior to that, three new European teams qualified for the finals in 1958 (Northern Ireland, SOVIET UNION, Wales).

In 1934, there were nine newcomers from Europe (Austria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland), and in 1930 there were seven from South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay) as well as four from Europe (Belgium, France, Romania, Yugoslavia).

80. Where and when did the phrase “group of death” originate?

The term “group of death” was first used at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1970, when the Mexican press dubbed Brazil's group el grupo de la muerte, the group of death, as it brought together England, Brazil, Czechoslovakia and Romania. England were the defending champions and Brazil had won the two FIFA World Cups previous to 1966 (i.e. 1958 and 1962).

81. What was the “group of sleep”?

Group 6 of the 1986 finals, which featured England, Poland, Portugal and Morocco, was called the “group of sleep” after the first four matches produced just two goals.

82. Where and when was la ola [the wave] invented?

The sequential standing up and sitting down by spectators to create a wave travelling through the stadium started in Mexico during the FIFA World Cup™ in 1986, and it was a common sight during the 1988 European Championship 1988 in Germany FR.

83. Which FIFA World Cup™ qualifying group holds the record for the highest number of teams?

Starting with the 2002 preliminaries, the South American qualifiers have consisted of a single group with ten teams playing 90 matches to determine five teams (the fifth-placed team qualifying for an interregional play-off).

84. Which results are considered to be the biggest upsets in FIFA World Cup™ history?

1950 USA 1-0 England – 1966 Korea DPR 1-0 Italy – 1982 Argentina 0-1 Belgium, Germany FR 1-2 Algeria – 1990 Argentina 0-1 Cameroon – 1994 Bulgaria 2-1 Germany – 2002 France 0-1 Senegal.



85. Which was the first African country to play at the FIFA World Cup™? Who was next?  
Egypt (1934). Africa's next representatives were Morocco (1970).
86. Which was the first Asian country to play at the FIFA World Cup? Who was next?  
Indonesia (1938, then still known as Dutch East Indies). Asia's next representatives would be Korea Republic (1954) and Korea DPR (1966).
87. Mexico was the first Central American country to play at the FIFA World Cup™ (in 1930, the first FIFA World Cup™). Which country was next?  
El Salvador (1970). The next representatives were Honduras (1982) and Costa Rica (1990).
88. Which was the first Caribbean country to play at the FIFA World Cup™? Who was next?  
Cuba (1938). The next Caribbean teams were Haiti (1974), Jamaica (1998) and Trinidad and Tobago (2006).
89. Mexico was the first Central American country to qualify for the second time (in 1950, their first FIFA World Cup™ having been in 1930). Who was next?  
El Salvador (1970/82), then Costa Rica (1990/2002).
90. Which was the first Asian country to qualify for the second time? Who was next?  
Korea Republic (1954/86), then Saudi Arabia (1994/98) and Iran (1978/98).
91. Which were the first African countries to qualify for the second time?  
Morocco (1970/86) and Algeria (1982/86), followed by Cameroon (1982/90) and Egypt (1934/90).
92. Which was the first country not from Europe or South America to attend two consecutive FIFA World Cups™, and when? Who was next?  
The first country not from Europe or South America to attend two consecutive FIFA World Cups™ was the USA (1930/34). The next were Mexico (1950/54), Algeria (1982/86), Korea Republic (1986/90) and Cameroon (1990/94). Thereafter, consecutive qualifications by teams not from Europe or South America became commonplace.
93. Which were the first countries from South America to qualify for the second consecutive time, and when? Who was next?  
The first two countries were Brazil and Argentina (both 1930/34). The third was Uruguay (1950/54). Next came Chile (1962/66), Peru (1978/82), Colombia (1990/94), Paraguay (1998/2002) and Ecuador (2002/06).
94. Which was the first country from CONCACAF to qualify for the second consecutive time, and when? Who was next?  
The first was the USA (1930/34). The second was Mexico (1950/54), the third Costa Rica (2002/06).
95. Which was the first Asian country to qualify for the second consecutive time, and when? Who was next?  
The first was Korea Republic (1986/90). The second was Saudi Arabia (1994/98), the third Japan (1998/2002).
96. Which was the first African country to qualify for the second consecutive time, and when? Who was next?  
The first was Algeria (1982/86), the second Cameroon (1990/94). Morocco and Nigeria were next (both 1994/98), followed by South Africa and Tunisia (both 1998/2002).



97. Which was the first Asian country to reach the second round? The quarter-finals? The semi-finals?
- Korea DPR in 1966, when the second round was the quarter-finals. The next Asian country to reach the second round was Saudi Arabia in 1994. The first Asian country to reach the semi-finals was Korea Republic, who finished fourth in 2002.
98. Which was the first African country to reach the second round? The quarter-finals?
- Morocco became the first African country to reach the second round in 1986. Cameroon reached the quarter-finals in 1990.
99. Mexico was the first Central American country to reach the quarter-finals, in 1970 and again in 1986. Has any other Central American team progressed beyond the first round?
- Yes, Costa Rica reached the second round in 1990.
100. Has any Caribbean country reached the second round? The quarter-finals?
- Yes, Cuba in 1938, when the second round was the quarter-finals.
101. Has any Asian country ever beaten a former or defending world champion?
- Yes, in 1966 Korea DPR beat – and eliminated – former champions Italy, thus also becoming the first Asian country to reach the second round (which was the quarter-finals). In 2002, Korea Republic eliminated Italy in the second round.
102. Has any African country ever beaten a former or defending world champion?
- Yes, in 1982 Algeria beat former champions Germany FR. In 1990, Cameroon beat defending champions Argentina, and in 2002 Senegal defeated defending champions France, both times in the opening match.
103. Which was the first country to beat a defending champion?
- The first country to beat a defending champion was Sweden when they upset Italy 3-2 in 1950, the fourth FIFA World Cup™. Uruguay won in 1930 but did not feature in either 1934 or 1938, both of which were won by Italy.
104. Which match saw the very first African victory at the FIFA World Cup™? The second? The third?
- 1978 Tunisia 3-1 Mexico – 1982 Algeria 2-1 Germany FR, Algeria 3-1 Chile.
105. Which match saw the very first Asian victory at the FIFA World Cup™? The second? The third?
- 1966 Korea DPR 1-0 Italy – 1994 Saudi Arabia 2-1 Morocco, Saudi Arabia 1-0 Belgium.
106. Which match saw the very first Caribbean victory at the FIFA World Cup™? The second?
- 1938 Cuba 2-1 Romania – 1998 Jamaica 2-1 Japan.
107. Which match saw the first North American victory at the FIFA World Cup™? The second? The third?
- 1930 USA 3-0 Belgium, USA 3-0 Paraguay – 1950 USA 1-0 England. The latter is considered one of the biggest upsets in football history; in fact, when the score was first wired to Europe, it was “naturally” assumed that someone had left out a “1” and that the score really was England 10-1 USA.



108. Of the countries that have never progressed past the group stage of the FIFA World Cup™, which had the best record?
- Scotland ranked third in their group in 1974, 1978, 1982 and 1990. (They qualified for 1954, 1958, 1974-1990 and 1998.)
109. When did Europe and Africa first clash at the FIFA World Cup™? Europe and Asia? Europe and Central America? Europe and North America? Europe and the Caribbean? Europe and Oceania?
- Europe-Africa: 1934 Hungary 4-2 Egypt  
Europe-Asia: 1938 Hungary 6-0 Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia)  
Europe-Central America: 1930 France 4-1 Mexico  
Europe-North America: 1930 Belgium 0-3 USA  
Europe-Caribbean: 1938 Romania 3-3/1-2 Cuba, Sweden 8-0 Cuba  
Europe-Oceania: 1974 German DR 2-0 Australia, Germany FR 3-0 Australia
110. When did South America and Africa first clash at the FIFA World Cup™? South America and Asia? South America and Central America? South America and North America? South America and the Caribbean? South America and Oceania?
- South America-Africa: 1970 Peru 3-0 Morocco  
South America-Asia: 1966 Chile 1-1 Korea DPR  
South America-Central America: 1930 Chile 3-0 Mexico, Argentina 6-3 Mexico  
South America-North America: 1930 Paraguay 0-3 USA, Argentina 6-1 USA  
South America-Caribbean: 1998 Argentina 5-0 Jamaica  
South America-Oceania: 1974 Chile 0-0 Australia
111. When did Africa and Asia first clash at the FIFA World Cup™?
- 1994 Morocco 1-2 Saudi Arabia.
112. European teams have met at every FIFA World Cup™ except 1930. South American teams meet less often, but still relatively often. Have two teams from any other region met at a FIFA World Cup™?
- Yes.  
1970 Mexico 4-0 El Salvador – 2002 Mexico 0-2 USA. These are the only intraregional matches involving a third region so far. (Turkey represent Europe.)
113. Statistically speaking, which is the weakest football region?
- Oceania. Only two teams from this region have ever qualified for a FIFA World Cup™, Australia (1974/2006) and New Zealand (1982). Australia reached the second round in 2006.
114. Which confederation sends the most teams to the finals?
- At present, UEFA (Europe) has 14 or 15 out of 32 spots, which is just below half. Relatively speaking, however, CONMEBOL (South America) sends most of its teams. With 10 members and four spots at the finals (5 with the play-off), up to half of the confederation's members goes to the FIFA World Cup™. (By comparison, Europe has 52 members, therefore 14 or 15 teams equates to about 30%.) The other regions can send about 10% of their teams to the finals.
115. All of the six confederations recognised by FIFA have sent at least two teams to the FIFA World Cup™. Is there any region within the confederations that has not yet sent a team to the finals? Has any region sent all of its teams?
- There has not yet been a team from East Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia, the Baltics, the Caucasus or Polynesia. On the other hand, all of North America – the USA and Canada – has been to a FIFA World Cup™ (Canada in 1986).



116. Which is the oldest of the six confederations recognised by FIFA?

The South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) was founded in 1916, 14 years before the first FIFA World Cup™. The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) and the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) were both founded in 1954, the Confederation of African Football (CAF) in 1957, the Football Confederation of North/Central America and the Caribbean (CONCACAF) in 1961, and the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) in 1966.

117. Do all the countries that have attended a FIFA World Cup™ still exist?

No. The SOVIET UNION (Soviet Union) broke up in 1990-91, Yugoslavia in 1991-92 (the remaining state being renamed Serbia and Montenegro in 2003 – which qualified for 2006 before it broke up that year), Czechoslovakia divided in 1993, and the German DR was reunified with Germany FR in 1990. If we also count changes of name without changes in territory, the Dutch East Indies, which played at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1938 under the status of a colony, officially took on the name Indonesia when they gained independence from the Netherlands in 1949. Zaire was renamed as the Democratic Republic of Congo (Congo DR) in 1997.

118. Has any team at a FIFA World Cup™ ever represented a country that actually no longer existed?

Yes, this has happened once so far. At the FIFA World Cup™ in 2006, which was played from 9 June to 9 July, the team from Serbia and Montenegro represented a country that no longer existed as Montenegro had left the union with Serbia on 21 May 2006, exactly 19 days before the tournament kicked off.

119. Which finalist teams have represented the smallest countries?

Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Northern Ireland, Kuwait – in that order.

120. Has any country attended every FIFA World Cup™?

Yes, Brazil have qualified for every FIFA World Cup™ so far. The other finalists have all missed at least two FIFA World Cups™.

121. Has a country ever attended a FIFA World Cup™ despite having been eliminated in the qualifiers?

Wales played in the FIFA World Cup™ in 1958 after being eliminated in the qualifiers. After all of Israel's opponents withdrew for political reasons, FIFA decided that Israel would have to meet one of the teams that had been eliminated. Wales won the lottery after Belgium declined and the Welsh qualified by beating Israel twice.

122. Has a country ever qualified for a FIFA World Cup™ and then stayed away?

Yes, five countries have done so: Uruguay, Austria, Scotland, India and Turkey. Uruguay, defending champions from 1930, stayed away in 1934 (held in Italy) because of the poor European attendance at their FIFA World Cup™ (1930 was held in Uruguay). Austria qualified for 1938, but were forced to forfeit after its annexation by Germany two-and-a-half months before the beginning of the tournament. Scotland, India and Turkey qualified for 1950 and then withdrew: Scotland because they did not top their qualifying group, and India because FIFA refused to let them play barefoot.





123. Which teams have qualified in the most bizarre circumstances?

Wales 1958

Israel's opponents had withdrawn in succession: first Turkey, then Indonesia, then Sudan. Since every country except the hosts and the holders had played at least two matches, FIFA decided that Israel would have to meet one of the originally eliminated teams, to be decided by a lottery. Wales won the draw after Belgium declined, and the Welsh qualified by beating Israel twice. It was the first (and so far the only) time that a country has played at a FIFA World Cup™ having been eliminated in the qualifiers.

Korea DPR 1966

Fifteen African nations withdrew in protest against FIFA's insistence on not allocating their continent its own slot. With South Africa banned for violating the anti-discrimination charter and Korea Republic boycotting the qualifying games in Cambodia, Korea DPR and Australia were left to vie for the single spot at the finals, which Korea DPR took easily.

Israel 1970

Israel had been grouped with Europe, but due to political problems it was harder for them to find a place in the qualifying rounds. Thus they were grouped with Asia/Oceania, where Korea DPR refused to meet them, even though this meant automatic disqualification. Meanwhile, Australia – who had beaten Korea Republic and Japan – had to play Rhodesia next. Rhodesia's entry had been accepted, but their government was not recognised, which meant that other teams could not go there, nor could other countries host them. In the end, Australia met Rhodesia on neutral ground in Mozambique. After two draws and one play-off, Australia eliminated Rhodesia but were then eliminated by Israel, who had only played New Zealand so far.

124. Which countries have hosted more than one FIFA World Cup™?

Mexico (1970/86), Italy (1934/90), France (1938/98) and Germany (1974/2006). The FIFA World Cup™ in 1974 was held in Germany FR. The German DR – who also qualified for this tournament – were an independent country at the time.

125. Which FIFA World Cup™ was the first to be held outside of Europe and Latin America?

USA 1994

126. Which FIFA World Cup™ had the most venues?

Korea/Japan 2002. The tournament was played in 20 stadiums in 20 cities, ten in each country. The previous record had been set by Spain 1982, with 17 stadiums in 14 cities.

127. Korea/Japan 2002 was the first co-hosted FIFA World Cup™, but was it the first major international football tournament to be co-hosted?

No, it was the fourth – after the CONCACAF Gold Cup 1993 (Mexico/USA), the European Championship 2000 (Belgium/Netherlands) and the Africa Cup of Nations 2000 (Ghana/Nigeria).

128. Has a country ever been awarded a FIFA World Cup™ and then been unable to host it?

Yes. The 1986 finals, which were held in Mexico, had originally been awarded to Colombia, who backed out due to financial and logistical reasons. (The 1942 finals, which were never held due to World War II, are said to have been awarded to Germany, although this never was confirmed.)

129. Has a country ever been eliminated twice from the same preliminary competition?

Yes, Sierra Leone and Laos, from the 1998 and 2006 qualifiers respectively. Sierra Leone's first-round opponents Burundi qualified for the second round, then dropped out due to civil war and were replaced by Sierra Leone. Given a reprieve, Sierra Leone progressed to the second round, where they were eliminated again. Laos were eliminated during the preliminary round for 2006, but then qualified for the first round proper as the best-placed losers after Guam withdrew.



130. Not counting the first two FIFA World Cups™, how many countries have reached the semis in their very first FIFA World Cup™?
- So far two: Portugal (1966) and Croatia (1998). Moreover, Croatia achieved the feat at the very first time of asking as the 1998 preliminaries had been their very first FIFA World Cup™ qualifiers.
131. Have all FIFA World Cup™ teams represented independent countries?
- Not all. England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales are not independent, but together comprise the United Kingdom, which does not field a joint team. Thus, England were the first – and so far only – world champions from a country that was not independent. The Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) are the only colony to have ever played in a FIFA World Cup™.
132. What is the record for the number of different teams coached at the FIFA World Cup™?
- Five. Velibor “Bora” Milutinović, a native of Serbia who is now a Mexican citizen, coached Mexico in 1986, Costa Rica in 1990, the USA in 1994, Nigeria in 1998 and China in 2002. Carlos Alberto Gomes Parreira of Brazil is currently on four, having coached Kuwait in 1982, the United Arab Emirates in 1990, Brazil in 1994, Saudi Arabia in 1998 and Brazil again in 2006.
133. What is the record for the most FIFA World Cups™ as a coach with one team?
- Four. Three coaches have been in charge of the same team at four different FIFA World Cups™: Walter Winterbottom of England (1950/54/58/62), Lajos Baróti of Hungary (1958/62/66/78) and Helmut Schön of Germany FR (1966/70/74/78).
134. How far has a team progressed with a foreign trainer?
- The best any team has done with a foreign trainer was second place, reached by Sweden in 1958 with Englishman George Raynor, and the Netherlands in 1978 with Ernst Happel of Austria, whose co-trainer was Dutchman Jan Zwartkruis.
135. As of which FIFA World Cup™ have squad numbers been worn on the back of shirts, with players wearing the same number throughout the tournament?
- This began at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1954. Some teams had already worn squad numbers in 1950, but some, like England, had not worn them individually but according to position, which meant that several players had worn the same number.
136. Ever since players began wearing numbers on the back of their shirts, has any FIFA World Cup™ team not used continuous numbering?
- In 1954, Scotland did not have a number 15 after Robert Johnstone, who had been assigned this number, dropped out with injury shortly before the FIFA World Cup™. His number was not assigned to a different player. In 1962, Uruguay skipped number 13 (unlucky) and their squad numbers ran 1-12 and 14-23. In 2002, the Republic of Ireland sent Roy Keane home after a serious falling-out between him and the rest of the squad, with the result that number 6 was missing. (At this tournament, Zlatko Zahovič of Slovenia, who wore number 10, was sent home under similar circumstances, although he did play in Slovenia’s first match, against Spain.)



137. At the first few FIFA World Cups™, there were many reduced squads (i.e. fewer than 22 players), usually for financial reasons. Which was the first FIFA World Cup™ competition without any reduced squads? Has any FIFA World Cup™ since then featured a reduced squad?

The first FIFA World Cup™ with full-strength squads was England 1966. The first FIFA World Cup™ in which all finalists named designated a full squad was Sweden 1958, although some of the teams left players on standby at home. This was also the case with Chile 1962. The next FIFA World Cup™ to feature a reduced squad was Spain 1982: El Salvador dropped two players from the final squad for financial reasons and only sent 20. At this FIFA World Cup™, Germany FR also sent 19 of 22 designated players, with the other three remaining on standby. In 2002, the Republic of Ireland sent Roy Keane home after he fell out with the rest of the squad, with the result that number 6 was missing.

138. Which was the first FIFA World Cup™ to be played under floodlights?

Brazil 1950.

139. Which was the first FIFA World Cup™ to be transmitted live on television?

Switzerland 1954. In 1951, it had been ruled that the ball may be white (hitherto leather brown), a concession made to television cameras, which only transmitted in black-and-white at the time.

140. Which was the first FIFA World Cup™ final to go to extra time?

1934 Italy 2-1 Czechoslovakia.

141. Have any FIFA World Cup™ finals been resolved by a penalty shoot-out?

Yes, two.

1994 Brazil 3-2 Italy (0-0 a.e.t.) – 2006 Italy 5-3 France (1-1 a.e.t.).

142. At which FIFA World Cup™ was the “golden goal” rule used for the first time?

The first match decided by a “golden goal” was France 1-0 Paraguay during the second round of the FIFA World Cup™ in 1998, Laurent Blanc scoring for France after 114 minutes. The first FIFA World Cup™ qualifier decided by a “golden goal” was Japan 3-2 Iran during the 1998 preliminaries, Japan scoring the winner after 118 minutes.

143. Where and when was the “golden goal” rule invented?

The “golden goal” rule was pioneered by Germany during the 1930-31 season. Following World War II, it was also used by Spain in 1950 and by Albania in 1961.

144. At which FIFA World Cup™ were yellow and red cards first used?

Mexico 1970.

145. Yellow and red cards were invented by English referee Kenneth George Aston. What gave him the idea?

He thought of yellow and red cards while waiting at traffic lights after attending the 1966 FIFA World Cup™ quarter-final between England and Argentina.

146. Which player is said to have been the first to use the overhead scissors kick?

Leônidas of Brazil. He played at the FIFA World Cups™ in 1934 and 1938.



147. Have the USA and the SOVIET UNION ever qualified for the same FIFA World Cup™?

Yes, Italy 1990. In fact, there were three teams at this FIFA World Cup™ whose name was an abbreviation: the USA (United States of America), the SOVIET UNION (Soviet Union) and the UAE (United Arab Emirates). They were all in different groups.

148. Did the the German DR and Germany FR ever qualify for the same FIFA World Cup™?

Yes, they did, in 1974, which was held in Germany FR. They were also drawn in the same group and played against each other. The German DR won the game, but Germany FR went on to win the tournament.

149. Which FIFA World Cup™ was the first to have an official mascot, and what was it?

The first FIFA World Cup™ with an official mascot was 1966. The mascot was World Cup Willie, a smiling British lion. Although he appeared on the official poster, he was not well known because he was not commercialised in the same manner as subsequent mascots have been. (Indeed, in the official programme for the finals, Willie appears only once: in an advert for Watney's beer.)

150. Who said this and when?

It will never catch on.

Said to Charles Miller, who introduced football to Brazil, upon his arrival with the Laws and kit in 1894.

A squad of stumblebums!

In 1966, before Italy's last group match, Ferruccio Valcareggi dismissed Korea DPR as una squadra di ridolini – a squad of stumblebums. Korea DPR beat Italy 1-0 in a sensational upset, thus also eliminating them from the FIFA World Cup™. The Italians flew home defeated, and even though their flight arrived one hour late at Genoa airport – two o'clock in the morning – the fans were waiting, and, to cries of "Vergogna!" [shame] and "Bidoni!" [good-for-nothings], they pelted the players with rotten fruit.

We've played on worse pitches than that.

Polish trainer Kazimierz Górski in 1974 after his team's 1-0 semi-final defeat to Germany FR on a flooded pitch that should by any standards have been declared unfit for play.

No European will take this title home!

Argentina's trainer César Luis Menotti in 1978, shortly before the beginning of the FIFA World Cup™ in Argentina that year. The hosts did win, although their victory was tainted by underhand tactics and allegations of bribery.

I'm sorry for the rest of the world, but once the players from the east join us, we'll be unbeatable for the next couple of years.

Germany FR's national trainer Franz Beckenbauer after winning the FIFA World Cup™ in 1990, just a few months before the impending reunification with the German DR. In 1994, the reunified Germany were eliminated by Bulgaria, and in 1998 by newcomers Croatia, both times in the quarter-finals. (Germany did win the European Championship in 1996, however.)

We've done our duty. The rest is extra.

Bulgarian striker Yordan Lechkov after Bulgaria's second-round elimination of Mexico on spot kicks in 1994. Bulgaria went on to eliminate defending champions Germany in the quarter-finals and reached the semi-finals for the first time ever. It was all the more impressive since Bulgaria had not won a single game in their previous five FIFA World Cup™ appearances.



### Qualify!

Jamaican President Percival James Patterson when he gave the Jamaican Football Federation one million dollars prior to the beginning of the qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup™ in 1998. His intention was to use the FIFA World Cup™ as an advertisement for his country. Each day that Jamaica remained in the finals, the country would receive more worldwide exposure than any advertising agency could provide for the same amount. The gamble paid off, and with the help of Brazilian trainer René Simões, Jamaica reached the finals for the first time ever.

151. What was the worst-ever consequence of a country's qualification for the FIFA World Cup™?

El Salvador's qualification for the 1970 finals sparked nothing less than a full-scale military war between El Salvador and neighbouring Honduras that raged for two weeks and became known as the "Football War".

152. Which team received the coldest shoulder from its fans after winning the FIFA World Cup™?

When the Germany FR team returned from Italy as world champions in 1990, some 80,000 fans were waiting for them in Frankfurt. When Argentina's team, who had been runners-up to Germany FR, landed in Buenos Aires, more than a million were there to give them a heroes' welcome. The roads were congested for miles.

153. What was the "hand of God"?

Jumping up together with England's goalkeeper Peter Shilton, Diego Maradona punched the ball up and over him for Argentina's opening goal in the 1986 quarter-finals. Maradona had been subtle enough, however, for his trick to appear a regular goal, and photo evidence came too late to change history. Years later, the "hand of God" was still being ridiculed on commercial television in Great Britain; and for the rest of the 1986 finals, whenever a player was caught handling the ball, Brazilian commentators quipped that only Maradona was allowed to use his hand.

154. What was the weirdest instance of numerology at any FIFA World Cup™?

At the FIFA World Cup™ in 1958, everything revolved around the number 3 for Paraguay. They scored three goals in each of their three matches, of which they won, drew and lost one apiece, giving them 3 points by the system then in use. The scores were Paraguay 3-7 France, Paraguay 3-2 Scotland and Paraguay 3-3 Yugoslavia. Adding the respective sides of the scores makes 9-12, both multiples of three, and three apart as well. Their sum total is 21, again a multiple of 3, and adding the numbers of 21 also yields 3. In the final ranking, Paraguay finished 12th, and the sum of 12 is 3. Taking the letters in the name Paraguay and assigning each the number of its position in the English alphabet, reducing those greater than 9 by addition and then adding the resulting numbers yields 36, which is 12 times 3.

155. Has a team ever been ordered not to play a FIFA World Cup™ match?

When Northern Ireland went to the FIFA World Cup™ in 1958, the Irish FA ordered them not to play two of their three group matches – Czechoslovakia (8 June) and Germany FR (15 June) – as these fell on Sundays. Their request fell on deaf ears.



156. Has a team ever refused to play its FIFA World Cup™ matches?

No, but Togo came close in 2006. Less than a week before their first match, against Korea Republic, the players went on strike because they still had not received the bonuses (about 30,000 euros each) that the Togolese government had promised them in January 2006 for qualifying for the FIFA World Cup™. The players had already briefly gone on strike before the Africa Cup of Nations in January 2006. The conflict could not be resolved even after Togo's Prime Minister Édem Kodjo and sports minister Ayouta Ouyenga travelled to Germany, so trainer Otto Pfister resigned three days before Togo's opening match, one of his conditions for accepting the contract having been that the players' bonuses would be paid. After the Togolese FA unsuccessfully tried to hire Winfried Schäfer, Pfister was back with the team on Monday, 12 June, two days before their first match. When the players then refused to play their second match, against Switzerland, FIFA stepped in to prevent another boycott and ensured that their bonuses were paid after all.

157. Which was the first FIFA World Cup™ with substitutions?

Substitutions were first introduced at the FIFA World Cup in 1970.

158. When were goals fitted with nets for the first time?

Goals were first fitted with nets in 1890.

159. When did a referee use a whistle for the first time?

A whistle was first used by a referee in 1878.

160. When was a crossbar used for the first time, and what was used in its place before?

A crossbar was first used in 1875. Prior to that, a cloth ribbon marked the upper demarcation of the goal.

161. Shin guards (protective pads worn inside the sock, covering the shin) are used regularly now, but when were they invented?

Samuel Weller Widdowson, a lace manufacturer and centre forward with Nottingham Forest, received a patent for shin guards in 1874.

162. Since when have teams changed ends at half-time?

Half-time was introduced in 1876. Before that, teams changed ends after every goal, or after 45 minutes if no goals had been scored by that time.

163. In which country did players first wear individual squad numbers on their backs?

Individual squad numbers on the backs of jerseys were pioneered in 1911 by a football club in Sydney, Australia.

164. Who introduced the ultralight football boot and when?

Brazil, at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1950.

165. Who were the first team to wear boots with screw-in studs at a FIFA World Cup™?

Germany FR, at the FIFA World Cup™ in 1954. When playing on a wet pitch, screw-in studs gave them an edge over opponents wearing shoes with fixed studs. As it was, it rained for most of the tournament.

166. At which FIFA World Cup™ did goalkeepers first wear gloves?

Switzerland 1954.



167. Has a player's name ever been misspelt on his jersey during a FIFA World Cup™?

Yes, in 2002: the name of Mauricio Wright of Costa Rica was misspelt as "Wright" on the back of his jersey.

168. As of which FIFA World Cup™ have teams been allowed to name 23 players? How many did they send before that?

Korea/Japan 2002. The previous maximum was 22.

169. Which is the oldest international fixture in the world?

England-Scotland. The first match was played in Glasgow on 30 November 1872, with a final score of 0-0.

170. Which is the oldest international football tournament in the world?

The Copa América, which is the South American continental championship. It was first held in 1916. Until 1945, it was called Copa América de Naciones.

171. Football is one of the oldest team sports known, but where did it originate?

Games similar to modern football were played in China and Japan about 2,500 years ago.

172. Arguably, the most absurd form a football match can take would be an own goal contest where the teams try to outdo each other at shooting into their own net. Has anything like this ever happened during an international match?

There is record of a Barbados-Grenada situation in the Caribbean Cup qualifiers in 1994. Barbados needed to win by a margin of two goals to progress to the next round. There was a rule in place at the time which stated that, should the match have to be resolved on spot kicks, the winner would be awarded a 2-0 victory. With just five minutes to go, Barbados were leading 2-1 and on their way out of the tournament. Since they were unlikely to penetrate Grenada's tight defence, they scored an own goal and levelled the scores. Grenada quickly realised what was going on and attempted to score an own goal themselves, whereupon Barbados started defending the Grenadian goal, and for the last five minutes of the game, the spectators were treated to the rare sight of a team defending their opponents' net against attackers who were desperately trying to score an own goal! Naturally, the game went to spot kicks and Barbados duly won.

173. Many teams have entered the FIFA World Cup™ and then withdrawn from the qualifiers without playing a match, but has a team ever played in a FIFA World Cup™ preliminary competition without actually having entered?

Tuvalu played in the South Pacific Games 2007, which doubled as a qualifying hurdle for the FIFA World Cup™ in 2010. Tuvalu, at the time only an associate member of the Oceania Football Confederation, were not affiliated to FIFA and had not entered the FIFA World Cup™, which meant that they were the first team to play in a FIFA World Cup™ preliminary competition without having entered.

PDF = FIDOM 166675