

## South Africa World Cup 2010 – The fever mounts

Football fans worldwide are gearing up for this year's 2010 football World Cup, which is being held in South Africa. In what could be called 'the greatest show on earth' the best teams in the world are ready to compete in what will be the 19<sup>th</sup> Football World Cup. The opening ceremony in Johannesburg on June 10<sup>th</sup> will include a concert featuring hot international acts including; the Black Eyed Peas, Alicia Keys and Shakira. It will also feature appearances by popular African artists and appearances by past and present football legends. The concert takes place at the newly-renovated Orlando Stadium in Soweto. Jerome Valcke from FIFA said: "We are thrilled to have a concert of such magnitude and performing talent raise the curtain on the first FIFA World Cup in Africa." 'The beautiful game', as it's also known, will actually kick off in Johannesburg on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June. Matches will be played across South Africa including Cape Town, Durban, Kimberley, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria.

Johannesburg's mayor Amos Maseko: "Africa's time has come! South Africa is ready!" The city with its distinctive African pulse is ready to show the world its unrivalled potential and opportunities. It will play a key role in the cup, hosting many matches including one of the quarter finals. Johannesburg will also be the venue for the final on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Vital preparations have been in progress for some time. This includes match venues being upgraded, the transport infrastructure being able to cope with the volume of people expected in the city and state of the art communications installed for the international media. Teams taking part include from Europe: England, France, Holland, Spain and Slovakia; from the America's: the USA, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico; from Asia: North and South Korea and Japan; from Australasia: Australia and New Zealand; from Africa: South Africa, Algeria, Ghana and Nigeria. The games are likely to draw record worldwide TV viewing audiences. Altogether there are a total of 32 teams taking part. They are split into eight groups with four teams in each. Only two teams get through to the final. There can only be one winner. The question is - who is going to win?

**Category: South Africa / World Cup / Football**

**Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate**

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## EXERCISES

1. **Football World Cup 2010:** Where is the 2010 FIFA World Cup taking place? Think of three other things you know about the 2010 FIFA World Cup. What is FIFA? (*Teachers see p6*) Go round the room swapping details.

2. **Geography: South Africa:** Where is South Africa? What is its capital? (*Teachers see p6*) What countries and seas surround it? What countries are within it? Draw a map on the board or **look on Google maps** to help you.

3. **Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - we need to do some work!

4. **Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

5. **Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

6. **The article:** Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?

7. **Let's Think: FIFA World Cup:** With your partner fill in the gaps below. (Use the internet to help you) Which was the greatest cup final? Why?

Host	Winners	Host	Winners
2006		1994	
2002		1990	
1998		1986	

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

8. **Let's think! Football:** Swap partners. With your new partner on the board write as many words to do with '**football**' as you can. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

9. **Let's Think: I am going to South Africa...** You are going to South Africa with some friends to see the final. Describe to the class what you might see.

10. **Let's talk! In a pub:** *In pairs:* Imagine you are in a pub. The conversation gets onto **the FIFA World Cup 2010**. Discuss. *5-minutes*.

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11. **World Cup mania!** With your partner think of two legendary world cup players. Add two famous football stadiums. Why these?

Two legendary world cup players	Two famous football stadiums
1	1
2	2

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

12. **Let's do 'The Article Quiz':** Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

**Student A**

- 1) Name the international acts.
- 2) Name the stadium in Soweto.
- 3) What date is the final?
- 4) Who is Johannesburg's mayor?
- 5) How many World Cups have there been?

**Student B**

- 1) Name three teams taking part from Europe.
- 2) How many teams are in the World Cup?
- 3) Name three cities in South Africa the FIFA World Cup will play in.
- 4) What preparations have been taking place?
- 5) Name three teams taking part from Africa.

13. **Presentation:** In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a 2-minute presentation on **the FIFA World Cup 2010**. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class – After the presentations go through the strong and weak points on each presentation.

14. **A day in Johannesburg:** In pairs. Look at the list below. Each person chooses to be one of the following. Student A creates a short story about what that person might do or see during a day during the world cup in Johannesburg. (Imagine!) Tell it to your partner. Try to make it interesting, funny, the experiences, etc... Student B's story can then be interacted into Student A's story!

1 Tourist	3 Football hat maker / seller
2 Taxi driver	4 Football player

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to tell their stories in front of the class.

15. **Let's write! An e-mail:** Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **The Football World Cup 2010**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

16. **Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) The World Cup 2010 \_\_\_\_\_
- b) The winner \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Football \_\_\_\_\_

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**SPEAKING**

Open debate! Football World Cup 2010 - The Groups  
*Allow 10-20 minutes - Small groups / pairs / 1 to 1*

What's the latest news about the teams? Who is going to win?

'Throw in' a few football phrases! What are your tips for the teams?

'Tackle' the issue and discuss together.

<b>Group A</b> South Africa Mexico Uruguay France	<b>Group E</b> Netherlands Denmark Japan Cameroon
<b>Group B</b> Argentina Nigeria Korea Republic Greece	<b>Group F</b> Italy Paraguay New Zealand Slovakia
<b>Group C</b> England USA Algeria Slovenia	<b>Group G</b> Brazil Korea DDR Ivory Coast Portugal
<b>Group D</b> Germany Australia Serbia Ghana	<b>Group H</b> Spain Switzerland Honduras Chile

The teacher can moderate the session.

## GAP FILL: READING

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Football fans worldwide are gearing up for this year's 2010 \_\_\_\_\_ World Cup, which is being held in South Africa. In what could be called 'the greatest show on earth' the best teams in the world are ready to \_\_\_\_\_ in what will be the 19<sup>th</sup> Football World Cup. The opening \_\_\_\_\_ in Johannesburg on June 10<sup>th</sup> will include a concert featuring hot international acts including; the Black Eyed Peas, Alicia Keys and Shakira. It will also feature appearances by \_\_\_\_\_ African artists and appearances by past and present football \_\_\_\_\_. The concert takes place at the newly-renovated Orlando Stadium in Soweto. Jerome Valcke from FIFA said: "We are thrilled to have a concert of such \_\_\_\_\_ and performing talent raise the curtain on the first FIFA World Cup in Africa." 'The \_\_\_\_\_ game', as it's also known, will actually kick off in Johannesburg on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June. \_\_\_\_\_ will be played across South Africa including Cape Town, Durban, Kimberley, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria.

*magnitude*

*matches*

*ceremony*

*compete*

*legends*

*beautiful*

*popular*

*football*

Johannesburg's mayor Amos Masondo: "Africa's time has come! South Africa is \_\_\_\_\_!" The city with its distinctive African \_\_\_\_\_ is ready to show the world its unrivalled \_\_\_\_\_ and opportunities. It will play a key role in the cup, hosting many matches including one of the quarter finals. Johannesburg will also be the venue for the final on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Vital preparations have been in progress for some time. This includes match venues being upgraded, the transport infrastructure being able to cope with the volume of people expected in the city and state of the art communications installed for the international \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ taking part include from Europe: England, France, Holland, Spain and Slovakia; from the America's: the USA, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico; from Asia: North and South Korea and Japan; from Australasia: Australia and New Zealand; from Africa: South Africa, Algeria, Ghana and Nigeria. The \_\_\_\_\_ are likely to draw record worldwide TV viewing audiences. \_\_\_\_\_ there are a total of 32 teams taking part. They are split into eight groups with four teams in each. Only two teams get through to the final. There can only be one \_\_\_\_\_. The question is - who is going to win?

*media*

*potential*

*ready*

*winner*

*teams*

*games*

*pulse*

*altogether*

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**GAP FILL: LISTENING**

*Listen and fill in the spaces.*

## South Africa World Cup 2010 – The fever mounts

Football fans worldwide \_\_\_\_\_ this year's 2010 football World Cup, which is being \_\_\_\_\_. In what could be called 'the greatest show on earth' the best teams in the world are ready to compete \_\_\_\_\_ 19<sup>th</sup> Football World Cup. The opening ceremony in Johannesburg on June 10<sup>th</sup> will include a concert featuring hot international acts including; the Black Eyed Peas, Alicia Keys and Shakira. It will also feature appearances by popular African artists and appearances by past and present football legends. The concert \_\_\_\_\_ newly-renovated Orlando Stadium in Soweto. Jerome Valcke from FIFA said: "We are thrilled \_\_\_\_\_ such magnitude and performing talent raise the curtain on the first FIFA World Cup in Africa." 'The beautiful game', as it's also known, will actually kick off in Johannesburg on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June. Matches \_\_\_\_\_ South Africa including Cape Town, Durban, Kimberley, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria.

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**From page 1 - Note:** The Republic of South Africa vests its executive, legislative and judicial authorities in three separate cities. Pretoria functions as the executive capital, Bloemfontein as the judicial, while the legislative powers are vested in Cape Town.

**From page 1 - Note:** The International Federation of Associated Football ( in French – Fédération Internationale de Football Association) is commonly known as FIFA. It is the governing body of association football. Its headquarters is in Zurich, Switzerland. Its current president is Sepp Blatter.

## GRAMMAR

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Football fans worldwide are gearing up (1)\_\_\_ this year's 2010 football World Cup, which is being held in South Africa. In what could be called 'the greatest show on earth' the best teams in the world are ready to compete in what will be the 19<sup>th</sup> Football World Cup. The opening ceremony in Johannesburg (2)\_\_\_ June 10<sup>th</sup> will include a concert featuring hot international acts including; the Black Eyed Peas, Alicia Keys and Shakira. It will also feature appearances by popular African artists and appearances (3)\_\_\_ past and present football legends. The concert takes place (4)\_\_\_ the newly-renovated Orlando Stadium in Soweto. Jerome Valcke from FIFA said: "(5)\_\_\_ are thrilled to have a concert (6)\_\_\_ such magnitude (7)\_\_\_ performing talent raise the curtain on the first FIFA World Cup in Africa." '(8)\_\_\_ beautiful game', as it's also known, will actually kick off in Johannesburg on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June. Matches will be played across South Africa including Cape Town, Durban, Kimberley, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria.

**at**  
**and**  
**for**  
**we**  
**on**  
**by**  
**of**  
**the**

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**with**  
**from**  
**through**  
**many**  
**also**  
**this**  
**there**  
**only**

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**DISCUSSION**

**Student A questions**

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Who is going to win this years FIFA World Cup trophy?
- 3) Would you like to go to South Africa to watch the final?
- 4) What do you think of South Africa hosting the FIFA World Cup this year?
- 5) Will it be safe for football fans to visit South Africa?
- 6) Will Nelson Mandela be at the opening ceremony?
- 7) Which country last hosted the world cup?
- 8) Which country won the world cup last time?
- 9) Who won the cup in 1966?
- 10) Where was the venue in 1970?

**Student B questions**

- 1) Who do you want to win the FIFA World Cup 2010?
- 2) Who are the favourites to win the cup?
- 3) Who is least likely to win the cup? Why?
- 4) Where was the football world cup played in 1998?
- 5) Who won the cup in 1994?
- 6) Who hosted the cup in 1990?
- 7) Where is the next FIFA World Cup going to be held? When?
- 8) When did your national team last play in the world cup?
- 9) Are you going to be watching the world cup? If yes, where?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

**ANSWERS**

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