

A

## Famous clubs lead the way

### INSTRUCTIONS

Match up the blanks in the articles with the words listed.

improve

Madrid

smoke

Scotland

Spanish

many

United

healthy

Juventus

players

Milan

Chelsea

Europe's richest football clubs can attract the world's top 1)\_\_\_\_\_. This helps them achieve success in their own country.



At the start of March, Manchester 2)\_\_\_\_\_ were top of the English Premier League ahead of their great rivals Liverpool and 3)\_\_\_\_\_ while Aston Villa lay fourth. Meanwhile in 4)\_\_\_\_\_, Celtic and Rangers were fighting it out for the top spot.

In Spain, Barcelona held a large lead over their great rivals, Real 5)\_\_\_\_\_ and are now clear favourites to take the Spanish title. In Italy, Jose Mourinho's Inter 6)\_\_\_\_\_ sat proudly at the top of Serie A well ahead of 7)\_\_\_\_\_ and AC Milan.

### Young players told to get fit

Roy Keane has warned young footballers they need to 8)\_\_\_\_\_ their fitness if they want to enjoy a long career at the top level of the game.

Keane, who was one of the Republic of Ireland's greatest ever players, believes French and 9)\_\_\_\_\_ players make a big effort to stay fit and 10)\_\_\_\_\_. However, he feels many British players need to work harder.

Keane claims young players must understand they simply cannot 11)\_\_\_\_\_ and must also learn to eat and drink healthily. This will help them to stay fit and play at the highest level for 12)\_\_\_\_\_ years.



### QUESTIONS

1) Rich football clubs can attract the world's top players. What does this help them achieve?

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Which four teams led the English Premier League at the start of March?

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Why were Barcelona fans happier than Real Madrid fans in March?

\_\_\_\_\_

4) Name three clubs and one manager from Italy's Serie A.

\_\_\_\_\_

5) What warning has Roy Keane given to young footballers?

\_\_\_\_\_



## B. CODE-BREAKING NEWS

NEATLY copy out the sentences below using the code box to help you discover the coded words.

A = 8	C = 3	E = 7	G = 26	I = 9	K = 12	M = 5	O = 4	Q = 15	S = 6	U = 1	W = 23	Y = 21
B = 19	D = 22	F = 10	H = 18	J = 11	L = 17	N = 13	P = 25	R = 20	T = 2	V = 16	X = 14	Z = 24

1) Many 3-17-1-19-6 signed new 25-17-8-21-7-20-6 during the 2-20-8-13-6-10-7-20 window.

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2) Wycombe 23-8-13-22-7-20-7-20-6 are challenging for promotion from Football League 2-23-4.

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3) 5-8-13-3-18-7-6-2-7-20 United reached the 2-4-25 of the 25-20-7-5-9-7-20 League in January.

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4) 23-7-6-2 Ham's Julien 10-8-1-19-7-20-2 is on loan to Real 5-8-22-20-9-22 for the rest of the 6-7-8-6-4-13.

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5) 22-1-13-22-7-7 United and 3-7-17-2-9-3 took twenty-one 25-7-13-8-17-2-9-7-6 in a recent 3-1-25 tie.

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## C. CHECK YOUR SPELLING!



Which football words solve the clues below?

\_\_\_\_\_ a symbol of the Christian religion (5)

\_\_\_\_\_ someone who looks after zoo animals (6)

\_\_\_\_\_ strike me, it catches fire! (5)

\_\_\_\_\_ a large house near Aston perhaps? (5)

\_\_\_\_\_ tells the crew of a boat what to do (7)

\_\_\_\_\_ a name for a store of weapons (7)

\_\_\_\_\_ animals howling at Molinieux Stadium? (6)

MANAGERS: (Remember to check your spelling!)

\_\_\_\_\_ The city where Sir Alex Ferguson works. (10)

\_\_\_\_\_ Luis Felipe \_?\_ lost his job in February. (7)

\_\_\_\_\_ Arsene Wenger's nationality. (6)

\_\_\_\_\_ First name of the Aston Villa manager. (6)

\_\_\_\_\_ Dave \_?\_ manages Cardiff City. (5)

\_\_\_\_\_ The nationality of the England manager. (7)

\_\_\_\_\_ Nigel Worthington manages Northern \_?\_

## D. WORLD CUP MIX-UP

**Unscramble the mixed-up words in the clues below.  
The letters in the panel will help you.**

- A** South CARFIA will host the World Cup finals in 2010.
- B** RABLIZ is the most successful team in the history of the World Cup.
- C** HAINC has the world's largest population but has not yet won the World Cup.
- D** Players must KINDR a lot during World Cup matches played in hot countries.
- E** It is very PENEXSVIE for a country to host the World Cup finals.
- F** The behaviour of SNAF at matches can affect a country's world-wide reputation.
- G** NAYREGM has won the World Cup on three occasions.
- H** IGHH tackles have seen many players sent off in World Cup matches.
- I** Many viewers can now watch qualifying matches on the TENIERNT.
- J** PAAJN was a co-host of the 2002 World Cup Finals.
- K** In 2002, South ORKAE was the other co-host of the finals.
- L** France STOL the 2006 World Cup Final on penalties.
- M** Diego DOMRAANA was a great player who now manages Argentina.
- N** THERENSLDAN are often called Holland by TV commentators.
- O** MANO has already been eliminated from the 2010 qualifying group from Asia.
- P** Many people believe LEEP is the greatest footballer ever to play in the World Cup.
- Q** You can normally see EQUUSE outside of stadiums before matches.
- R** SSIARU is a major footballing nation but it has never won the World Cup.
- S** George Burley hopes to manage TOCDANLS at the next World Cup finals.
- T** A careless PRIT in the box could give away a crucial penalty in the final.
- U** The South American country GUUURYA won the World Cup in 1930 and 1950.
- V** The 'v' in France v Italy stands for RESVSU.
- W** In 1966, England won the World Cup at BEEMYLW Stadium in London.
- X** Many SAYRX have been taken after tackles in World Cup matches.
- Y** Referees often show WELOLY before red, but not always.
- Z** BIAZAM is one of many African countries which entered the 2010 World Cup.

A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

B \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

D \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

E \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

F \_ \_ \_ \_

G \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

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Z \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



## E. HEADS & TAILS



Match up the two halves of the sentences by placing the correct letter beside each number.

- |                                       |          |   |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---|
| 1. ( ) The 'FA' in FA Cup .....       | a) ..... | caused some matches to be cancelled in February.        |
| 2. ( ) Everton and Liverpool .....    | b) ..... | such as Arsenal have successful women's teams.          |
| 3. ( ) Terrible weather conditions .. | c) ..... | are great Merseyside rivals.                            |
| 4. ( ) Robbie Keane .....             | d) ..... | are held every four years.                              |
| 5. ( ) Many top football clubs .....  | e) ..... | a very different game to the football played in the UK. |
| 6. ( ) An international player .....  | f) ..... | is an abbreviation of Football Association.             |
| 7. ( ) The World Cup Finals .....     | g) ..... | returned to Tottenham Hotspur in a £12 million deal.    |
| 8. ( ) American football is .....     | h) ..... | is one who has represented his or her country.          |

## F. PUNCTUATION & HANDWRITING



Neatly copy out the paragraph below. As you do so, add the correct punctuation.



*diego maradona is one of the greatest footballers the world has ever seen it is more than 20 years since he stopped playing but he is still very popular throughout the world he recently visited the indian city of calcutta where he attracted massive crowds*

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## G. FIND THE WORDS



Use letters from the words in the box to make up more words of three or more letters. You may not use names or plurals.

**INTER MILAN**

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

# Tackle it!

## No.1 - Answers

### A. NEWS ARTICLES

1. players 2. United 3. Chelsea 4. Scotland 5. Madrid 6. Milan 7. Juventus 8. improve 9. Spanish  
10. healthy 11. smoke 12. many

### QUESTIONS

1. It helps them achieve great success in their own country.
2. Manchester United, Liverpool, Chelsea, Aston Villa.
3. Barcelona have a nine point gap over Real Madrid in La Liga.
4. AC Milan, Inter Milan, Juventus (or others) - Jose Mourinho (or others).
5. Roy Keane has warned young players they must improve their fitness to enjoy a long career at the top level in football.

### B. CODE-BREAKING NEWS

- 1) Many clubs signed new players during the transfer window.
- 2) Wycombe Wanderers led Football League Two in February.
- 3) Manchester United reached the top of the Premier League in January.
- 4) West Ham's Julien Faubert is on loan to Real Madrid for the rest of the season.
- 5) Dundee United and Celtic took twenty-one penalties in a recent cup tie.

### C. CHECK YOUR SPELLING

cross; keeper, match; Villa; captain or skipper; Arsenal; Wolves.  
Manchester; Scolari; French; Martin; Jones; Italian; Ireland.

### D. WORLD CUP MIX-UP

Africa; Brazil; China; Drink; Expensive; Fans; Germany; High; Internet; Japan; Korea; Lost;  
Maradona; Netherlands; Oman; Pele; Queues; Russia; Scotland; Trip; Uruguay; Versus; Wembley;  
X-rays; Yellow; Zambia.

### E. HEADS & TAILS

1. f 2. c 3. a 4. g 5. b 6. h 7. d 8. e

### F. PUNCTUATION & HANDWRITING

Diego Maradona is one of the greatest footballers the world has ever seen. It is more than 20 years since he stopped playing but he is still very popular throughout the world. He recently visited the Indian city of Calcutta where he attracted massive crowds.

### G. FIND THE WORDS

Many possible answers