

Podcast 4: 2008-9 Worksheet

World Cup Qualifiers

By Damian Fitzpatrick (September 7th 2008)

Pre-Listening (Background information)

World Cup qualifiers dominate this week as teams attempt to make the finals in South Africa in 2010. On this week’s main report we interview three international football fans and hear how they rate their countries’ chances. Answers and transcripts are at the end of the worksheet.

A. Main Idea – note taking

Listen to the whole report and fill in the chart with appropriate information.

Speaker	Nationality	Other teams in group (mentioned)	Biggest Rival	Qualifying chances	Key player(s)	Comments about the Manager
Massimo						Marcelo Lippi
Adam					Zoltan Gera	Erwin Koeman
Marcelo						Carlos Dunga

B. Listening

Listen to the first part of the report (Italy) and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase. Then explain the meaning.

1. '... qualifiers are starting again this weekend and of course Italy are the World champions, the _____ World Cup holders, and we have an Italian fan here...'

2. '... what do you think of their chances of _____ for South Africa for 2010?'

3. '... hopefully, as we already did in ... two years ago, we won the World Cup thanks to him and we hope to _____ this.'

4. 'Most people in Italy are happy with his _____?'

5. '... key player, which player do you think is _____ from the team?'

6. '... a defender. But without him I think that the defence is _____.'

ANSWERS

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A. Main Idea – note taking

Listen to the whole report and fill in the chart with appropriate information.

Speaker	Nationality	Other teams in the group (mentioned)	Biggest Rival	Qualifying chances	Key player(s)	Comments about the Manager
Massimo	Italian	Cyprus Bulgaria Ireland	Ireland	The best in the group so no problems	Fabio Cannavaro	Marcelo Lippi New / second time as coach / hopes to win WC again / huge support
Adam	Hungarian	Denmark Portugal Sweden	Denmark	Very difficult to qualify	Zoltan Gera	Erwin Koeman Brother of Ronald Koeman / support from fans
Marcelo	Brazilian	Argentina Paraguay Chile	Argentina	Will qualify (always do!)	Kaka Ronaldinho	Carlos Dunga Lacks experience / little support among fans / Luxemburgo favourite to take over

B. Listening

Listen to the first part of the report (about Italy) and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase. Then explain the meaning.

1. ‘... qualifiers are starting again this weekend and of course Italy are the World champions, the **current** World Cup holders, and we have an Italian fan here...’

present, existing

2. ‘... what do you think of their chances of **qualifying** for South Africa for 2010?’

progressing, moving on, getting through

3. '... hopefully, as we already did in ... two years ago, we won the World Cup thanks to him and we hope to **repeat** this.'

Do again, (win again), replicate, retain

4. 'Most people in Italy are happy with his **appointment**?'

selection, job

5. '... key player, which player do you think is **indispensable** from the team?'

Cannot do without, extremely important

6. '... a defender. But without him I think that the defence is **rubbish**.'

Extremely poor, bad quality

Transcript

Italy

DF: European World Cup qualifiers are starting again this weekend and of course Italy are the World champions, the current World Cup holders, and we have an Italian fan here, Massimo who is going to tell us a little bit about his team's chances. Massimo, how are you?

Massimo: Hi Damian, fine, how are you?

DF: Good, I'm good, looking forward to football this weekend, yes.

Now, of course Italy are the World Cup holders and what do you think of their chances of qualifying for South Africa for 2010?

M: Well, I think, I hope, but I think definitely that Italy have good chance to go on.

DF: OK, so in your group what rivals do you have?

M: Well, you know... Italy is in the group with Bulgaria, Ireland and Cyprus. Definitely I think to be honest, the best of the group...

DF: You should get through.

M: Yes.

DF: So which of those teams, Bulgaria, Ireland, Cyprus are you most afraid of?

M: Well, Ireland for sure, yes. They are a very good team and they have also one of the best manager from Italy too. It's Trapattoni.

DF: Of course...

M: He's one of the best of Italy

DF: Yes, it's going to be an interesting game that one ...

M: Yes.

DF: Now, speaking of managers, Italy have a new manager, can you tell us a little bit about him?

M: It's Lippi again, hopefully, as we already did in ... two years ago, we won the World Cup thanks to him and we hope to repeat this.

DF: Most people in Italy are happy with his appointment?

M: Yes, yes, yes, no, no most people want, I mean he's ...the World Cup winner so definitely people are happy, yes.

DF: So what about key player, which player do you think is indispensable from the team?

M: Well, it could be strange but I think that Cannavaro is the key man of the, of the team even if he's a defender. But without him I think that the defence is rubbish.

DF: Really?

M: Yes.

DF: Alright, thanks very much and good luck.

M: Thank you.

Hungary

DF: We've got a Hungarian football fan who is going to tell us a little bit about his team's chances for qualifying. Adam.

Adam: Well, I think since we have Sweden, Portugal and Denmark in our group we will not have much chance to qualify.

DF: That's a pretty tough group, isn't it?

A: Yes, it is.

DF: So which of those three teams do you think will be your direct... kind of rival? Which team do you think you could challenge?

A: Probably Denmark I think.

DF: In your team, which are the key players that we should look out for Hungary?

A: I think we have really just one key player, it's Gera Zoltan, he plays for Fulham and he's very, very good.

DF: Yes, he is, he's one of their best players?

Now, what about your manager? Do we know anything about the manager?

A: Yes, we have now a new manager since this summer and he's called Erwin Koeman and he's the brother of Ronald Koeman, probably we will do good...

DF: OK, and most people in Hungary would support him?

A: Yes, yes.

DF: That's good, so this weekend you play...?

A: Against Denmark.

DF: What do you think? What are your chances?

A: I can think of a draw so I hope.

DF: Ok, good luck.

A: Thanks.

Brazil

DF: Now of course, World Cup qualifiers take place in South America as well and we have Marcelo here who is a Brazilian fan and we're going to ask him about his country's chances of qualifying for the World Cup.

Marcelo, can you tell us about the situation Brazil are in at the moment, where are they in the qualifying campaign?

Marcelo: Of course, if you see our position now, it's not a good position but we have the tradition and we have good players and I believe Brazil will have his place in the World Cup.

DF: Now of course Brazil have qualified for every final.

M: Yes, yes, it's tradition we are in all World Cups.

DF: Now at the moment you are in fifth position and this weekend you're playing against Chile is that right?

M: Yes.

DF: Tough game?

M: Yes, yes, but I hope we will win.

DF: OK, now which other countries are your biggest rivals at the moment in the South American group?

M: Of course, Argentina and now Paraguay.

DF: So Paraguay are top?

M: Yes, yes but Argentina is, I believe, the best team now in South America.

DF: Now of course we know many of the Brazilian stars are playing in Europe, what are the players are the key players for you for Brazil?

M: I believe the key players are Kaka and Ronaldinho... if they are well, we will be well.

DF: OK, now your manager at the moment is Dunga, yes?

M: Yes.

DF: What's the feeling about the manager at the moment in Brazil?

M: Personally I don't like him and I believe he doesn't have experience and his position now is not good and I believe if we lose the next game his position will be so difficult.

DF: Right, right. In the Brazilian media is there a favourite to take over from Dunga?

M: Yes, Luxemburgo.

DF: Oh, really?

M: People talk about Luxemburgo as a very, very famous coach in Brazil.