

2012 European Championship: Italy

April 19th 2012

On this week's main listening report we preview the Champions League Semi-final second legs that are both delicately poised: Real Madrid face Bayern Munich while on Tuesday Barcelona host Chelsea.

A. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the first section of the report and fill in the gaps with an appropriate word or phrase.

Barcelona vs Chelsea

No team has _____ the Champions League trophy since Milan did so in 1994, meaning the already difficult task for _____ Barcelona became even more so after their 0-1 defeat in London against Chelsea. It is true that the Catalan side _____ far more chances than the home team: 13 shots to 1 (with 6 of those on target), while Barca enjoyed 72% possession – a remarkable _____ for an away side – yet Didier Drogba's first half-goal has given Chelsea a real possibility of exacting _____ on Barcelona for their semi-final defeat four years ago. Chelsea defended very well, were brave and maintained their _____ throughout the whole game – the question is can they do it again away in the Nou Camp next week? Many pundits would say that The Blues can not get away with another performance like the first leg but like Inter Milan two years ago they will know that when Barca have to come from _____ the pressure will be on.

B. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the second section of the report and decide whether the sentences are true or false.

1. T / F Bayern Munich were lucky to win
2. T / F Jose Mourinho was very disappointed with the result
3. T / F Jose Mourinho could lose his job if his Madrid side fail to make it to the final
4. T / F The Champions League final will be played in Germany
5. T / F Few predicted a Chelsea – Bayern Munich final

ANSWERS

A. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the first section of the report and fill in the gaps with an appropriate word or phrase

Barcelona vs Chelsea

No team has **retained** the Champions League trophy since Milan did so in 1994, meaning the already difficult task for **holders** Barcelona became even more so after their 0-1 defeat in London against Chelsea. It is true that the Catalan side **created** far more chances than the home team: 13 shots to 1 (with 6 of those on target), while Barca enjoyed 72% possession – a remarkable **statistic** for an away side – yet Didier Drogba's first half-goal has given Chelsea a real possibility of exacting **revenge** on Barcelona for their semi-final defeat four years ago. Chelsea defended very well, were brave and maintained their **concentration** throughout the whole game – the question is can they do it again away in the Nou Camp next week? Many pundits would say that The Blues can not get away with another performance like the first leg but like Inter Milan two years ago they will know that when Barca have to come from **behind** the pressure will be on.

B. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the second section of the report and decide whether the sentences are true or false.

1. T / F Bayern Munich were lucky to win
deserved
2. T / F Jose Mourinho was very disappointed with the result
Not too downbeat
3. T / F Jose Mourinho could lose his job if his Madrid side fail to make it to the final
His tenure could be over
4. T / F The Champions League final will be played in Germany
5. T / F Few predicted a Chelsea – Bayern Munich final

Transcript

Barcelona vs Chelsea

No team **has retained** the Champions League trophy since Milan did so in 1994, meaning the already difficult task for holders Barcelona became even more so after their 0-1 defeat in London against Chelsea. It is true that the Catalan side created far more chances than the home team: 13 shots to 1 (with 6 of those on target), while Barca enjoyed 72% possession – a remarkable statistic for an away side – yet Didier Drogba's first half-goal has given Chelsea a real possibility of **exacting revenge** on Barcelona for their semi-final defeat four years ago. Chelsea defended very well, were brave and maintained their concentration throughout the whole game – the question is can they do it again away in **the Nou Camp** next week? Many **pundits** would say that The Blues can not get away with another performance like the first leg but like Inter Milan two years ago they will know that when Barca have **to come from behind** the pressure will be on.

Real Madrid vs Bayern Munich

The second semi-final also saw a Spanish side defeated – this time Madrid were beaten by a late goal from German international Mario Gomez to give Bayern Munich a deserved [2-1 lead](#). Madrid boss Jose Mourinho was not too **downbeat** after the game as his side has a valuable away goal meaning that a 1-0 victory in Madrid next week would be enough **to secure a place in the final** but the Madrid coach also knows that if his side fails to progress to the final then **his tenure** in Madrid could be over. The fact that this season's final will take place in Bayern's home stadium is **an added incentive** for **the Bavarian side** and they will be quietly confident of scoring an away goal which would mean that Real would need at least three goals to win.

Before the first leg matches most football fans were predicting an all-Spanish final, a [clasico](#), but after the first legs it is the underdogs – a strange term to describe Chelsea or Bayern – who have the upper hand. Will that still be the case by next week?

Vocabulary

has retained: Has won the title again, two years in a row

to come from behind: To win a match after going down (losing)

exacting revenge: To gain revenge

the Nou Camp: The home stadium of Barcelona

pundits: Experts about football

downbeat: Disheartened, disappointed

his tenure: His reign, his time as manager

an added incentive: More motivation

the Bavarian side: Bayern Munich

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