

## Worksheet: World Cup Group B

### Task A. Main Idea – note taking

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

	Current FIFA Ranking	Number of Previous World Cup Appearances	Other Information
Spain			
Holland			
Chile			
Australia			

### Task B. Main Idea - true or false

Listen to the whole report again answer the following questions.

1. T | F Spain would be the first European country to win the World Cup in South America
2. T | F The speaker thinks that Spain will progress from the group.
3. T | F Holland have been World Cup runners-up on three occasions.
4. T | F The Dutch manager is inexperienced.
5. T | F Chile are known as an offensive side.
6. T | F The speaker feels Australia can cause an upset.

### Task C. Vocabulary: Gap fill

Now listen again to the first part of the report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word.

#### Spain

Spain are the World Cup and European Championship holders - in fact they have won the last two European Championships - and they are ranked first by FIFA. Despite this, some say they will find it hard to \_\_\_\_\_ their trophy as no European side has ever won a World Cup that has taken place in South America and after last year's \_\_\_\_\_ by Brazil in the Confederations Cup final there are questions over whether they can \_\_\_\_\_ . Manager Vicente del Bosque's squad has enormous \_\_\_\_\_ and of course they have a winning mentality so it may be \_\_\_\_\_ to write off Xavi, Iniesta \_\_\_\_\_ just yet. They will face their World Cup final opponents from four years ago, Holland, in their opening game and they will need something from that to try and avoid the hosts Brazil in the second round. They will qualify from the group but depending whether they finish first or second they could be out in week two or go \_\_\_\_\_ to the final.

## ANSWERS

### Task A. Main Idea – note taking

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

	Current FIFA Ranking	Number of Previous World Cup Appearances	Other Information
Spain	1	13	
Holland	15	9	
Chile	14	8	
Australia	62	3	

### Task B. Main Idea - true or false

Listen to the whole report again answer the following questions.

- T | F Spain would be the first European country to win the World Cup in South America

**No European side has ever won on South American soil.**
- T | F The speaker thinks that Spain will progress from the group.

**They will qualify**
- T | F Holland have been World Cup runners-up on three occasions.

**the third time that they have lost in a World Cup final,**
- T | F The Dutch manager is inexperienced.

**a manager with a wealth of experience**
- T | F Chile are known as an offensive side.

**expects his team to play attacking football (This is implied rather than stated directly)**
- T | F The speaker feels Australia can cause an upset.

**I think the Socceroos will be going home soon after their final match**

### Task C. Vocabulary: Gap fill

Now listen again to the first part of the report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word.

#### Spain

Spain are the World Cup and European Championship holders - in fact they have won the last two European Championships - and they are ranked first by FIFA. Despite this, some say they will find it hard **to retain** their trophy as no European side has ever won a World Cup that has taken place in South America and after last year's **thrashing** by Brazil in the Confederations Cup final there are questions over whether they can **last the pace**. Manager Vicente del Bosque's squad has enormous **strength in depth** and of course they have a winning mentality so it may be **premature** to write off Xavi, Iniesta **and co** just yet. They will face their World Cup final opponents from four years ago, Holland, in their opening game and they will need something from that to try and avoid the hosts Brazil in the second round. They will qualify from the group but depending whether they finish first or second they could be out in week two or go **all the way** to the final.

## Transcript

### Spain

Spain are the World Cup and European Championship holders - in fact they have won the last two European Championships - and they are ranked first by FIFA. Despite this, some say they will find it hard to retain their trophy as no European side has ever won a World Cup that has taken place in South America and after last year's **thrashing** by Brazil in the Confederations Cup final there are questions over whether they can **last the pace**. Manager Vicente del Bosque's squad has enormous **strength in depth** and of course they have a winning mentality so it may be **premature** to write off Xavi, Iniesta **and co** just yet. They will face their World Cup final opponents from four years ago, Holland, in their opening game and they will need something from that to try and avoid the hosts Brazil in the second round. They will qualify from the group but depending whether they finish first or second they could be out in week two or go all the way to the final.

### Holland

The Dutch were beaten finalists four years ago, the third time that they have lost in a World Cup final, and will face Spain again in their opening Group B match. The Netherlands are currently ranked 15th in the world, have played in nine previous tournaments and have, in Louis Van Gaal, a manager with **a wealth of experience**. They will be captained by Manchester United's Robin Van Persie who along with Sneijder and Robben will provide the attacking threat for the *Oranje* but despite this huge amount of talent there are still questions over whether they can even make it out of the group. I think they will at the expense of Chile and Australia.

### Chile

Chile finished third in the South American qualifying process and were many people's favourites to do well until they found themselves in the so-called Group of Death. Chile played in the first World Cup in 1930 and this will be their ninth appearance where they will be hoping to do as well as the 1962 side that finished third when they hosted the tournament. Their coach, Jorge Sampaoli, expects his team to play attacking football and with Barcelona striker Alexis Sanchez **leading the line**, the team that FIFA ranks as the 14th best in the world will be hoping to progress to the next round - I am not sure that they will and feel **they will miss out** but only just.

### Australia

Australia qualified for **the third time in succession**, and their fourth overall, but are not expected to do that well in Brazil. They are currently ranked at 62 by FIFA which is the lowest of all the 32 participating nations and though they are capable of causing a surprise, their Group B opponents will be simply too strong for this to happen. I think the Socceroos will be going home soon after their final match on June 23rd against Spain in Curitiba.

## Vocabulary

**thrashing:** A heavy defeat

**last the pace:** maintain their level

**strength in dept:** The squad is very strong

**premature:** Too soon; too early

**and co:** And the rest of the team

**a wealth of experience:** Lots of experience

**leading the line:** Be the main striker

**they will miss out:** They will be eliminated - they will not qualify

**the third time in succession:** The third time in a row (2006, 2010 and 2014)