

Worksheet: World Cup Group A

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
Brazil			
Croatia			
Mexico			
Cameroon			

Task B. Main Idea - true or false

Listen to the whole report again answer the following questions.

1. T | F The speaker thinks Brazil and Croatia will qualify from Group A.
2. T | F Brazil have never hosted the World Cup before.
3. T | F Brazil's manager lacks World Cup experience.
4. T | F The Croatian team are confident they will qualify for the second round.
5. T | F Mexico reached the quarter finals in World Cup 2010.
6. T | F Cameroon played in their first World Cup in 1992.

Task C. Vocabulary: Gap fill

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

The _____ are one of the favourites to lift the trophy on July 13th but the team in fourth place on the FIFA rankings also carries the _____ as they attempt to win their sixth World Cup. Brazil are the only country to have appeared in all 19 previous World Cup tournaments and this is the second time they have hosted the tournament - the last occasion was in 1950 when they _____ to Uruguay in what became known as the *Maracanazo*. Though the team is relatively inexperienced, Brazilian fans are hoping that young superstar Neymar can drive the Seleção to victory. They do however have an experienced coach, Felipe Scolari, who has already _____ when he won the World Cup back in 2002. Brazil should easily qualify from Group A but in the second round they will probably have to play _____ of Spain, Holland or Chile and if they get through that they may have to face the _____ of Italy, Germany or Argentina. This is the main reason why I think that Scolari's Brazil will once again _____ at home.

Task D. Vocabulary: Gap fill

Now listen again to the final part of the report and fill in the gaps with the correct preposition.

Cameroon's first appearance _____ a World Cup was _____ 1982 in Spain and since then they have played _____ five more occasions including the 2010 tournament in South Africa where they lost all three matches. This may well happen again as the Indomitable Lions are the weakest _____ the four sides according _____ FIFA's ranking - currently they are in 50th position. They do, however, have Chelsea striker Samuel Eto'o _____ lead their line and if they can get something _____ their opening match _____ Mexico then they may well spring a surprise.

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
Brazil	4	19	
Croatia	20	3	
Mexico	19	14	
Cameroon	50	6	

Task B. Main Idea - true or false

Listen to the whole report again answer the following questions.

1. T | F The speaker thinks Brazil and Croatia will qualify from Group A.
True
2. T | F Brazil have never hosted the World Cup before.
False (1950)
3. T | F Brazil's manager lacks World Cup experience.
Scolari won the World Cup in 2002
4. T | F The Croatian team are confident they will qualify for the second round.
They will fancy their chances
5. T | F Mexico reached the quarter finals in World Cup 2010.
to make the second round of the tournament for the fifth time in a row
6. T | F Cameroon played in their first World Cup in 1992.
1982

Task C. Vocabulary: Gap fill

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

The **hosts** are one of the favourites to lift the trophy on July 13th but the team in fourth place on the FIFA rankings also carries the **weight of the nation** as they attempt to win their sixth World Cup. Brazil are the only country to have appeared in all 19 previous World Cup tournaments and this is the second time they have hosted the tournament - the last occasion was in 1950 when they **lost out** to Uruguay in what became known as the *Maracanazo*. Though the team is relatively inexperienced, Brazilian fans are hoping that young superstar Neymar can drive the Seleção to victory. They do however have an experienced coach, Felipe Scolari, who has already **tasted success** when he won the World Cup back in 2002. Brazil should easily qualify from Group A but in the second round they will probably have to play **one** of Spain, Holland or Chile and if they get through that they may have to face the **powerhouses** of Italy, Germany or Argentina. This is the main reason why I think that Scolari's Brazil will once again **fall short** at home.

Task D. Vocabulary: Prepositions

Now listen again to the final part of the report and fill in the gaps with the correct preposition.

Cameroon's first appearance **at** a World Cup was **in** 1982 **in** Spain and since then they have played **on** five more occasions including the 2010 tournament **in** South Africa where they lost all three matches. This may well happen again as the Indomitable Lions are the weakest **of** the four sides according **to** FIFA's ranking - currently they are in 50th position. They do, however, have Chelsea striker Samuel Eto'o **to** lead their line and if they can get something **from** their opening match **against** Mexico then they may well spring a surprise.

Transcript

Brazil

The **hosts** are one of the favourites to lift the trophy on July 13th but the team in fourth place on the FIFA rankings also **carries the weight of the nation** as they attempt to win their sixth World Cup. Brazil are the only country to have appeared in all 19 previous World Cup tournaments and this is the second time they have hosted the tournament - the last occasion was in 1950 when they lost out to Uruguay in what became known as the **Maracanazo**. Though the team is relatively inexperienced, Brazilian fans are hoping that young superstar Neymar can drive **the Seleção** to victory. They do however have an experienced coach, Felipe Scolari, who **has already tasted success** when he won the World Cup back in 2002. Brazil should easily qualify from Group A but in the second round they will probably have to play one of Spain, Holland or Chile and if they get through that they may have to face the powerhouses of Italy, Germany or Argentina. This is the main reason why I think that Scolari's Brazil will once again **fall short** at home.

Croatia

Croatia are appearing in their fourth World Cup - their first was in 1998 when they finished third - and despite having to qualify via a play-off they **look a good bet to make the second round**. They are currently ranked 20th in the world and though **they will fancy their chances** over Mexico and Cameroon to finish second in the group only the most optimistic of Croatian fans would expect them to go further. The main strength of manager Niko Kovac's side is in midfield where Sevilla's Ivan Rakitic and Real Madrid's Luka Modric will drive the team forward.

Mexico

This will be the 15th time that **El Tri** have appeared at the World Cup finals but they were oh so very close to missing out on this one as they struggled through the **CONCACAF** qualifying stages. Their manager Miguel Herrera managed to get them to Brazil **via** the play-offs and his team, ranked 19th place in the world, will be hoping to make the second round of the tournament for the fifth time in a row. They will be relying on Manchester United forward Javier Hernandez to score the goals to help **propel** them to the last 16 but I think this may be beyond this Mexican side.

Cameroon

Cameroon's first appearance at a World Cup was in 1982 in Spain and since then they have played on five more occasions including the 2010 tournament in South Africa where they lost all three matches. This may well happen again as the **Indomitable Lions** are the weakest of the four sides according to FIFA's ranking - currently they are in 50th position. They do, however, have Chelsea striker Samuel Eto'o **to lead their line** and if they can get something from their opening match against Mexico then they may well **spring a surprise**.

Overall prediction

Brazil to top the group with Croatia qualifying in second spot.