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2014 Brazil World Cup - Semi-Finals

10th July, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/2014-world-cup-round-up-7.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/2014-world-cup-round-up-7.html>

This World Cup has been full of surprises. None has compared to the shock 7-1 defeat of Brazil by Germany in the first Semi-Final. It is, perhaps, the most shocking result in football history. Brazil were full of energy and had a few attacks in the first ten minutes. Then, Thomas Muller opened the scoring with his fifth goal of the tournament. That was followed by three goals in 179 seconds as the Brazil defence catastrophically collapsed. There was no way back and Brazil went on to suffer their most embarrassing defeat ever. Germany are on target for their fourth World Cup crown.

The second semi-final was in total contrast to the Germany-Brazil game. There was very little excitement in the game and very few goal attempts. Argentina's goalkeeper only had to make one save in 120 minutes. Argentina perhaps had the better chances, especially in the second half of extra time. Palacio failed to head over the Dutch goalkeeper and minutes later, Maxi Rodriguez mistimed his shot with only the 'keeper to beat. The game went to penalties. Argentina's goalkeeper Romero was the hero with two penalty saves, which put his team through to meet Germany in Sunday's final in Rio.

Source: www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/2014-world-cup-round-up-7.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. full | a. collapsed |
| 2. the shock 7-1 | b. defeat ever |
| 3. the most shocking result | c. the scoring |
| 4. Thomas Muller opened | d. on target |
| 5. the Brazil defence catastrophically | e. defeat of Brazil |
| 6. There was no | f. of surprises |
| 7. suffer their most embarrassing | g. in football history |
| 8. Germany are | h. way back |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. in total | a. one save |
| 2. very few | b. his shot |
| 3. Argentina's goalkeeper only had to make | c. better chances |
| 4. Argentina perhaps had the | d. over the Dutch goalkeeper |
| 5. the second half | e. contrast |
| 6. Palacio failed to head | f. to meet Germany |
| 7. Rodriquez mistimed | g. goal attempts |
| 8. put his team through | h. of extra time |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/2014-world-cup-round-up-7.html>

This World Cup has been (1) _____. None has (2) _____ 7-1 defeat of Brazil by Germany in the first Semi-Final. It is, perhaps, the most shocking (3) _____ history. Brazil were full of energy and had a few attacks in the first ten minutes. Then, Thomas Muller (4) _____ with his fifth goal of the tournament. That was followed by three goals in 179 seconds as the Brazil defence (5) _____. There was no way back and Brazil went on to suffer their most embarrassing defeat ever. Germany (6) _____ fourth World Cup crown.

The second semi-final (7) _____ to the Germany-Brazil game. There was very little excitement in the game and (8) _____. Argentina's goalkeeper only had to make one save in 120 minutes. Argentina perhaps (9) _____, especially in the second half of extra time. Palacio failed to head over the Dutch goalkeeper (10) _____, Maxi Rodriguez mistimed his shot with only the 'keeper to beat. The (11) _____. Argentina's goalkeeper Romero was the hero (12) _____, which put his team through to meet Germany in Sunday's final in Rio.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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This World Cup has been full of surprises. None has compared to the shock 7-1 defeat of Brazil by Germany in the first Semi-Final. It is, perhaps, the most shocking result in football history. Brazil were full of energy and had a few attacks in the first ten minutes. Then, Thomas Müller opened the scoring with his fifth goal of the tournament. That was followed by three goals in 179 seconds as the Brazilian defence catastrophically collapsed. There was no way back and Brazil went on to suffer their most embarrassing defeat ever. Germany are on target for their fourth World Cup crown. This second semi-final was in total contrast to the Germany-Brazil game. There was very little excitement in the game and very few goal attempts. Argentina's goalkeeper only had to make one save in 120 minutes. Argentina perhaps had the better chances, especially in the second half of extra time. Palacio failed to head over the Dutch goalkeeper and minutes later, Maxi Rodríguez mistimed his shot with only the keeper to beat. The game went to penalties. Argentina's goalkeeper Romero was the hero with two penalty saves, which put him through to meet Germany in Sunday's final in Rio.

SEMI-FINALS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What do you imagine when you hear the word 'champion'?
- c) Which was the best semi-final (and why)?
- d) Do you feel sorry for the Brazil players?
- e) Would it have been better if Brazil had reached the final?
- f) How shocking is Brazil's 7-1 loss to Germany?
- g) What can Brazil do to bounce back from this defeat?
- h) What do you think the Brazil coach told his players at half time?
- i) What do you think the Germany coach told his players at half time?
- j) What advice do you have for the German players for the final?

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SEMI-FINALS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Who did you want to win before the game, Argentina or Holland? Why?
- c) Is Messi the best player in the world, like Pele and Maradona were?
- d) How will Brazilians feel that Argentina is in the World Cup Final?
- e) Was the Argentina-Holland game boring?
- f) What did you think of the penalty shootout?
- g) What did you think of the Holland goalkeeper's attempts to put off the penalty taker?
- h) Who do you want to win the final, Germany or Argentina?
- i) What do you think of FIFA's "Say No To Racism" campaign?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Argentina's coach?

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/2014-world-cup-round-up-7.html>

Write about **penalties** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
