Kick-off! The Story of Football

Patrick Adams

1 1 For thousands of years.
   2 Mexico.
   3 Two.
   4 There were seven players in each team. The players were men who had been captured in wars and kept as prisoners.
   5 With a sacrifice – the losing captain or team was killed.
   6 They ate and drank a lot.
   7 (a) In Japan. (b) In the streets of Rome.

2 1 (a) useful (b) play together, learn to obey orders (c) the ball in their hands, run with it
   2 In 1863 in London.
   3 It made fourteen rules. They were first used in 1865.
   4 (a) a crossbar, a net (b) whistles, red and yellow cards (c) heavy

3 1 (a) The first football league was founded in England. It was known as the First Division and was made up of twelve clubs.
   (b) Only one referee was needed for every game, though he had two linesmen – now called assistant referees – to help him.
   (c) The number of official rules of the game became seventeen.
   2 Yes, they can. Although the number of rules now is still the same as in 1898, they are revised every season and some have changed over the years.
   3 In 1892 at Goodison Park (the home of Everton Football Club), Liverpool.
   4 Because the first radio commentary of a football match was broadcast that day.
   5 The goalkeeper always wears the number 1 shirt. His shirt is also a different colour from those of the other players.
   6 In 1939.
   7 In 1965.
   8 Sir Stanley Matthews and Dixie Dean.
4  1. Amateurs are not paid to play football – they do it for fun and because they enjoy the game. For professionals, however, playing football is their job – and they are paid for doing it.

2. Young British men went there to work, and took their footballs with them because they enjoyed playing the game in their free time. They soon taught local people to play the game.

3. So that clubs of the same standard could play each other – this made the games fair and more exciting.

4. FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) is the organization responsible for controlling international football. It also organizes the World Cup. It was founded in 1904.

5. More than two hundred.

6. (a) Zinedine Zidane – midfielder. (b) Sepp Maier – goalkeeper. (c) Jurgen Klinsmann – striker.

7. (a) Rome. (b) Turin.

8. (a) Chelsea. (b) West Ham.


10. The club was AC Milan. The players were Frank Rijkaard, Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten.

11. Eusébio.

12. The Spanish national league is called La Liga and it was founded in 1928–9.

5  1. Alfredo di Stéfano.

2. Diego Maradona played for Boca Juniors. The team is based in Buenos Aires.


4. Because the Brazilian government would not let him – they declared him to be a ‘national treasure’ to stop him leaving the country.

5. In 1970, Mexico hosted the World Cup and got to the quarter-finals. In 1993, Mexico reached the final of the Copa America.

6. José Leandro Andrade.

7. Because to Americans, ‘football’ is the word used for the game of American football.

8. (a) David Beckham. (b) LA Galaxy.

6  1. Six.

2. Africa.

3. Any three of the following: Michael Essien (Ghana), Didier Drogba, Kolo and Yaya Toure, Emmanuel Eboue and Johan Djouore (all Ivory Coast), Samuel Eto’o and Alex Song (both Cameroon), Jay-Jay Okocha and Obafemi Martins (both Nigeria).

4. They send scouts to look at young players and may offer to coach them in England.

5. CSKA Moscow and Zenit St Petersburg.

6. (a) Dimitar Berbatov / Eduardo da Silva. (b) Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United / Arsenal.

7. (a) Panathinaikos and Olympiakos. (b) Galatasaray and Fenerbahce.
7 1 She founded the British Ladies’ Football Club.
   2 Because she wanted to show men that women were not just ‘ornamental’ and ‘useless’.
   3 Because it thought that football was unsuitable for females.
   4 It said that football was the most important sport for women in Britain.
   5 The USA.
   6 FIFA’s Women’s World Player of the Year Award.

8 1 The fighting between fans of Liverpool and Juventus at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels, which caused an old wall to collapse and thirty-nine people to be killed. Liverpool fans were blamed for this.
   2 Because that was the day of the Hillsborough tragedy, when ninety-six people died and hundreds more were injured owing to overcrowded terraces.
   3 Fans were no longer allowed to stand in the terraces. Everyone was given a numbered seat and had to sit on it.
   4 Modern players are fitter and slimmer, and think more about their diet and way of life. They also change clubs more often, and often play abroad.
   5 Because it was he who had the rule about transfer fees changed – now, when a player is out of contract, no transfer fee has to be paid.
   6 It would stop teams having too many foreign players, as every team playing in a match would have six or more ‘home’ players in it and not more than five foreign ones.
   7 Many English clubs have academies where young players can be trained and educated.
   8 The clubs have scouts who travel all over the world to find good young players.
   9 Domestic cups – like the FA Cup – are competed for by clubs from the same country. Different countries play for international cups – for example, the World Cup.
   10 Because success brings the winning club a lot of money and the best players want to play there.
   11 Every four years.
   12 They must have enough suitable stadiums.
9 1 Because they bring a lot of money to the clubs. They pay for their tickets and buy shirts and other things from the club shops.
2 The club owner wanting to win matches and titles is often the manager’s greatest problem. If there are arguments, managers often move from one club to another, in any part of the world.
3 Students’ own choice from any of the managers mentioned on pages 63–7.
4 Television companies pay clubs a lot of money to show matches. Television is also good for fans – allowing more of them to watch their team play – and sponsors, who can reach more people.
5 Because referees have to make decisions very quickly, and a TV replay may show that they have made a mistake.
6 He thinks that players’ wages are too high.
7 He thinks that all players’ wages should be ‘capped’ – that there should be a limit on the amount of money that the best players can earn.
8 They live in very large houses and have very rich lifestyles. They buy expensive cars and wear designer clothes.
9 Many footballers give time and money to help their local communities. Some players have even set up academies in their own countries where children can learn to play football and often receive an education at the same time.