

Thomas Müller: Ein Raumdeuter



1) Discussion

- a) Do you know any players who can play in a lot of positions?
 - b) Can you think of any attacking players who are famous for their off-the-ball work?
 - c) In your opinion, who are some underrated players?
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2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

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| 1) Storied (adjective) | a) A term used to describe something or someone that is essential or central to the success of an activity or organization. |
| 2) Maestro (noun) | b) Describing something as flawless or perfect. |
| 3) Impeccable (adjective) | c) The act of making something easier or more accessible. |
| 4) Linchpin (noun) | d) To evoke a feeling of shared emotion, opinion, or experience; to create a strong connection with someone. |
| 5) To facilitate (verb) | e) Used to describe a history or tradition that is rich and well-documented. |
| 6) To resonate (verb) | f) Used to describe someone who is a master or expert in a particular area. |



b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.

- 1) Bayern Munich boasts a _____ history in world football, filled with triumphs and iconic moments.
- 2) Lionel Messi, often referred to as a football _____, mesmerises fans with his extraordinary skills and game intelligence.
- 3) The passion and dedication of the fans _____ with the team's achievements, creating a powerful and emotional connection.
- 4) In any successful team, a solid defence is often the _____, holding the structure together during challenging matches.
- 5) Cristiano Ronaldo is known for his _____ goal-scoring record, rarely missing an opportunity to find the back of the net.
- 6) The coach implemented a new strategy to _____ quick ball movement, allowing the team to transition seamlessly from defence to offence.



3) Read the article quickly and answer the question.

- a) What skills does Thomas Müller have that make him such a good player?

Ein Raumdeuter

In the storied history of Bayern Munich, Thomas Müller emerged as a tactical maestro, renowned for his versatility and mastery of the Raumdeuter role. Coined by former manager Louis van Gaal, the term Raumdeuter translates to "space interpreter," capturing Müller's exceptional ability to exploit spaces on the field, making him an indispensable asset for the Bavarian giants.

Müller's tactical importance is rooted in his adaptability across various attacking positions. Whether deployed as a centre-forward, attacking midfielder, or on the wings, his intelligent movement and off-the-ball runs consistently trouble opposing defences, creating both scoring opportunities for himself and openings for teammates.

The German forward's goal-scoring prowess is a standout feature, despite not playing in a traditional striker role. Müller's impeccable timing and clinical finishing make him a constant threat in front of goal, especially in crucial moments of big matches. His versatility extends beyond scoring, as he adeptly links midfield and attack, facilitating quick transitions and fluid ball movement – hallmarks of Bayern's style.

Müller's work rate and commitment to pressing further distinguish him. His relentless efforts disrupt opponents' build-up play, showcasing a team-first mentality that resonates with both managers and fans alike. Beyond defensive contributions, Müller's understanding of space is unparalleled, allowing him to make intelligent decisions on and off the ball.

In conclusion, Thomas Müller's role as a Raumdeuter and his multifaceted contributions make him a linchpin in Bayern Munich's success. His adaptability, goal-scoring prowess, work rate, and spatial awareness collectively underline his tactical importance. As Bayern aims for continued success, Müller's unique skill set ensures he remains a pivotal figure in the club's pursuit of glory.



4) Discussion

- a) What do you think of Thomas Müller's career?
- b) Can you think of any other players who play in a specific position for their team?
- c) How would Thomas Müller fit into your favourite team?
- d) Can you think of any other players who have redefined a position?

