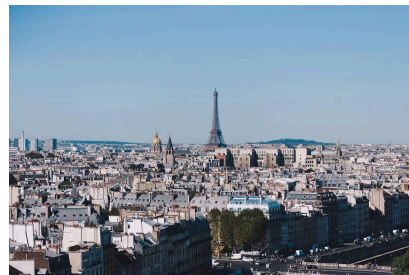


## Iconic Football Cities: Paris



### 1) Discussion

- a) Does your favourite team have a lot of local players?
  - b) Who are some of the best players to come from your city?
  - c) Can you think of any cities that produce some great players?
- 

### 2) Vocabulary

#### a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1) To Captivate (verb)  | a) A recognition or honor given to someone for their achievements or contributions.  |
| 2) To Couple (verb).    | b) The state of being famous or widely recognized, especially in an industry where public attention is significant.                            |
| 3) Virtuoso (adjective) | c) To attract and hold the attention or interest of someone or something.  |
| 4) Meteoric (adjective) | d) To join or connect things together.   |
| 5) Accolade (noun)      | e) Individuals who are highly skilled or talented in a particular field, especially music, arts, or sports.                                    |
| 6) Stardom (noun)       | f) Describing something that rises or progresses very quickly, often likened to the speed and intensity of a meteor streaking through the sky. |
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**b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.**

Captivate

Couple

Virtuoso

Meteoric

Accolade

Stardom

- 1) Lionel Messi's exceptional skills on the pitch never fail to \_\_\_\_\_ audiences around the globe.
- 2) Pele's \_\_\_\_\_ rise to \_\_\_\_\_ was helped by Brazil's success at the 1958 World Cup.
- 3) Winning the Ballon d'Or is considered the highest \_\_\_\_\_ a footballer can receive.
- 4) His natural ability, \_\_\_\_\_ with his dedication, has made Mohamed Salah one of the best players in the world.
- 5) Steven Gerrard was famous for \_\_\_\_\_ performances, dragging Liverpool through games.



### 3) Quick Read - Read the article quickly and answer this question.

a) Which players are mentioned in the article?

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#### Iconic Football Cities: Paris

Paris, celebrated for its cultural richness, may not have the football passion of Rio de Janeiro or the historic teams of Milan, but it has been a fertile ground for footballing talent, birthing some of the game's brightest stars.

Among them is Kylian Mbappé, born in Bondy, whose explosive rise with AS Monaco and Paris Saint-Germain has captivated fans worldwide. Mbappé's speed, skill, and pivotal role in France's 2018 World Cup win highlight his exceptional talent.

Thierry Henry, a product of Les Ulis, stands as another Parisian football icon. His time with Arsenal and Barcelona, coupled with triumphs in the 1998 World Cup and 2000 Euros, solidify his status as one of the greatest strikers in history.

Paul Pogba, born in Lagny-sur-Marne, exemplifies Paris's influence on talent. With Juventus and Manchester United, Pogba's midfield dominance earned him numerous titles, including the 2018 World Cup with France.

N'Golo Kanté, from Rueil-Malmaison, completes the quartet of Parisian virtuosos. Kanté's meteoric rise from amateur football to World Cup glory mirrors his relentless work ethic. Kanté has been instrumental in the success of clubs like Leicester City and Chelsea. His accolades include multiple Premier League titles, an FA Cup, and, like his compatriots, a FIFA World Cup triumph with France in 2018.

Paris's legacy as a footballing cradle is indisputable, with Mbappé, Henry, Pogba, and Kanté exemplifying the city's enduring influence on the sport. From the streets of Paris to global stardom, their journeys inspire generations of aspiring footballers, showcasing the city's profound impact on the beautiful game.



#### 4) Discussion

- a) Why do you think so many amazing players come from Paris?
- b) Which of the players mentioned in the article do you like the most?
- c) Do you think PSG would be a better team if they focused on local talent rather than superstars?

