

Der Kaiser



1) Discussion

- a) Who are some of your favourite German players of all time?
 - b) Is there anyone in your country who has had a big impact on football?
 - c) Can you think of any positions in football that aren't popular anymore?
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2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

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|---------------------------|--|
| 1) Innovative (adjective) | a) Someone who is one of the first to do something or introduce new ideas or methods in a particular field or area. |
| 2) Solace (noun) | b) Finding comfort or relief from sadness or stress in something like a hobby or a favorite activity. |
| 3) Sweeper (noun) | c) Something that cannot be forgotten or removed, often used to describe memories or marks that leave a lasting impression. |
| 4) To Transition (verb) | d) The process of changing from one thing to another, like going from being a player to becoming a coach. |
| 5) Indelible (adjective) | e) When someone or something comes up with new ideas or ways of doing things. |
| 6) Pioneer (noun) | f) A footballer who plays a defensive role by protecting the area behind the main defenders and clearing the ball from danger. |
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b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.

Innovative

Solace

Sweeper

Transition

Indelible

Pioneer

- 1) His skill as a _____ made him a crucial part of his team's defence.
- 2) Manuel Neuer's _____ approach to goalkeeping has changed football.
- 3) Manchester United have found the _____ period after Sir Alex Ferguson left very difficult.
- 4) Arrigo Sacchi was a _____ of Italian football in the 90s.
- 5) For many people living through difficulties, football is a source of _____.
- 6) His legacy in football is _____, with his ideas and strategies still influencing the game today.



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

- a) What makes Franz Beckenbauer special to German football?
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Franz Beckenbauer is a prominent figure in German football history, known for his innovative contributions to the sport. Born in post-war Munich, Germany, Beckenbauer's upbringing was marked by resilience and a love for football. Coming from a modest background, he found solace and passion in the game from an early age.

Beckenbauer's playing style as a sweeper was unique and revolutionary. He possessed an innate ability to anticipate opponents' moves, making him an invaluable asset on the field. However, what truly distinguished him was his approach to the sweeper position. Rather than solely focusing on defence, Beckenbauer transformed it into a dynamic role that contributed significantly to the team's attacking strategies. He was part of a dominant Bayern Munich team that won 3 European Cups between 1973 and 1976, as well as the 1974 World Cup and the 1972 European Championships with Germany.

Transitioning from player to coach, Beckenbauer continued to leave his mark on German football. His tenure as a coach of the national teams saw unprecedented success, with Germany achieving a number of victories and championships under his guidance, including the 1990 World Cup. Beckenbauer's strategic brilliance and tactical innovations moved Germany to the top of international football, solidifying their reputation as a powerhouse in the sport.

Even beyond his coaching career, Beckenbauer's influence on German football endures. His ideas and methodologies continue to shape the way the game is played and coached in Germany. Many coaches and players still look to him as a source of inspiration, studying his tactics and philosophy to improve their own skills and strategies.

In the annals of football history, Franz Beckenbauer's legacy is indelible. His contributions as both a player and a coach made an impact on German football, cementing his status as a pioneer and a legend of the game.



4) Discussion

- a) What are your thoughts on the career and life of Franz Beckenebeuer?
- b) What do you think of his role as a sweeper?
- c) What do you think of his managerial career and influence on German football?
- d) Can you name any other managers who have won the World Cup as a player and manager?

