

Zinedine Zidane



1) Discussion

- a) Who are your favourite French players of all time?
 - b) What players from the 90s and 2000s did you like watching?
 - c) Who were your favourite midfielders from that time?
-

2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1) To Resonate (verb) | a) To produce or provide a result, outcome, or product. |
| 2) Rugged (adjective) | b) To be the perfect example or symbol of something. |
| 3) Exquisite (adjective) | c) Difficult, tough or strong. |
| 4) Virtuosity (noun) | d) Relating to or characteristic of ballet; graceful, fluid, or elegant in movement. |
| 5) Balletic (adjective) | e) To evoke a strong feeling or response. |
| 6) To Yield (verb) | f) Characterized by exceptional beauty or elegance; of outstanding quality. |
| 7) To Personify (verb) | g) Exceptional skill, talent, or proficiency in a particular field, especially in the arts, music, or sports. |
-



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

To resonate	Rugged	Exquisite	Virtuosity
Balletic	To Yield	To Personify	

- 1) In women's football, players demonstrate remarkable resilience as they navigate through _____ challenges both on and off the pitch.
- 2) Legends like Pelé and Mia Hamm _____ the spirit of football, showing its values of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship throughout their illustrious careers.
- 3) The artistry of Lionel Messi's dribbling and Neymar's flair for the spectacular goals are _____ examples of skill.
- 4) The passion for football often _____ deeply with fans around the world.
- 5) Marta's _____ on the football field, with her talent and numerous accolades, has solidified her status as one of the greatest female players of all time.
- 6) Tactical adjustments made by coaches often _____ significant results, as demonstrated by Emma Hayes leading Chelsea Women's FC to multiple titles through astute game plans and strategic substitutions.
- 7) The _____ movement of players like Andres Iniesta, with his brings an added beauty to the game of football.



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

a) What clubs did Zinedine Zidane play for?

Zinedine Zidane: The Maestro of Elegance in Football

Few names resonate with the same level of grace, skill, and elegance as Zinedine Zidane. Born on June 23, 1972, in Marseille, France, Zidane's journey from the streets of La Castellane to the summits of world football is not just a tale of talent but a testament to his passion for the beautiful game.

Zidane's love affair with football began at a tender age, honing his skills in the rugged playgrounds of La Castellane, a neighbourhood known for its love for the sport. His talent caught the eye of scouts, leading to his enrollment in the AS Cannes youth academy at the age of 14.

It was at Cannes where Zidane's prodigious talent blossomed, showcasing his exquisite technique, vision, and dribbling prowess. His remarkable performances soon earned him a spot in the senior team, where he made his professional debut in 1989, marking the inception of a stellar career.

Zidane's crowning moment arrived on the biggest stage of them all - the FIFA World Cup. The 1998 edition, hosted by France, witnessed Zidane's virtuosity propel Les Bleus to glory. With deft touches, sublime passes, and crucial goals, he orchestrated France's path to the final, where he etched his name into footballing folklore with a mesmerising two-goal performance against Brazil, securing the World Cup trophy for his nation for the first time in history.

Following his exploits at Cannes and later with Bordeaux, Zidane's transcendent abilities captured the attention of Europe's elite clubs. In 1996, he made a blockbuster move to Juventus, where he further solidified his status as one of the game's preeminent talents. However, it was his transfer to Real Madrid in 2001 that would define his legacy.



At Real Madrid, Zidane became the centrepiece of the Galáctico project, spearheading an era of unprecedented success. With his balletic grace and impeccable technique, he mesmerised audiences and terrorised opponents. His time at the Santiago Bernabéu yielded numerous trophies, including La Liga titles and the coveted UEFA Champions League, cementing his status as a true icon of the game.

Zidane's impact transcends mere statistics and accolades. He personified elegance on the football pitch, combining power and finesse in equal measure. His journey from the streets of Marseille to the pinnacles of footballing glory is a tale of resilience, talent, and unwavering dedication. His impact on the game transcends generations, leaving an indelible mark on the annals of football history.

4) Discussion

- a) What are your thoughts on Zidane's career?
- b) Did you ever get the chance to watch him live?
- c) Where do you think he sits on the list of all-time greatest players?
- d) After his playing career he became a successful manager, what are your thoughts on him as a manager?



