

Manchester City 2017-2018: The Centurions



1) Discussion

- a) What is your favourite Premier League team?
 - b) How many points do you usually need to win the league in your country?
 - c) Who are the most influential managers in your favourite league?
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2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

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| 1) Unparalleled (adjective) | a) To finish something in a special way. |
| 2) Trickery (noun) | b) Extra time added to a game because of injuries. |
| 3) To Cap (verb) | c) Being better than others. |
| 4) Credential (noun) | d) The best, with nothing else as good. |
| 5) Superiority (noun) | e) Proof that someone can do a job well. |
| 6) Injury-time (noun) | f) Using clever moves to fool others. |



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

Unparalleled

Trickery

To Cap

Credential

Superiority

Injury-time

- 1) Luka Modric scored a spectacular goal _____ off Croatia's victory against Argentina in the 2018 World Cup.
- 2) Paris Saint-Germain demonstrated their _____ in Ligue 1 with another dominant season, finishing far ahead of their rivals.
- 3) In a thrilling finale, Ole Gunnar Solskjær scored in _____ to secure the 1999 Champions League for Manchester United.
- 4) Eden Hazard's _____ on the wing was a key factor in Chelsea's attacking strategy.
- 5) Erling Haaland's goal-scoring record at such a young age is simply _____, setting him apart from his peers.
- 6) Sadio Mane's performances in crucial games established his _____ as a top forward in European football.



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

- a) What was significant about Manchester City's performance during the 2017-2018 Premier League season?
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Centurions

The 2017-2018 season was a historic one for Manchester City, as Pep Guardiola's side dominated the Premier League with an unparalleled blend of flair, consistency, and resilience. This campaign saw City break numerous records and redefine what it meant to play dynamic, attacking football in the English top flight.

Raheem Sterling was pivotal to City's success. The English winger had a breakout season, showcasing his improved finishing and movement. He ended the league campaign with 18 goals, proving to be a constant threat to opposition defences with his pace and trickery.

Kevin De Bruyne was another standout performer. The Belgian playmaker orchestrated City's attacks with his vision, passing range, and intelligence. De Bruyne's 16 assists were the highest in the league, and he contributed crucial goals and match-winning performances throughout the season.

Sergio Agüero continued to be City's reliable goal scorer. The Argentine striker netted 21 league goals despite battling injuries, demonstrating his clinical finishing and importance to the team.

Captain Vincent Kompany provided leadership and defensive solidity. Despite struggling with injuries in previous seasons, Kompany's presence in key matches was instrumental, especially as City chased records and needed to maintain their high standards.

The 2017 summer transfer window saw Manchester City make strategic acquisitions to bolster their squad. Kyle Walker was signed from Tottenham Hotspur for £50 million. Walker's pace, strength, and attacking prowess from the right-back position added a new dimension to City's play, contributing significantly to both defence and attack. Bernardo Silva was another key signing, joining from AS Monaco. The



Portuguese midfielder brought creativity, versatility, and technical skill to Guardiola's side.

City's campaign was marked by several crucial victories. One of the standout performances came away at Chelsea, where a dominant display was capped by De Bruyne's stunning strike, securing a 1-0 victory. This win underscored City's title credentials early in the season.

The Manchester derby at Old Trafford was another highlight. City defeated Manchester United 2-1, with goals from David Silva and Nicolas Otamendi. This win extended their lead at the top of the table and demonstrated their superiority over their local rivals.

On the final day of the season, City faced Southampton away. Gabriel Jesus scored a dramatic injury-time winner to secure a 1-0 victory, ensuring City reached 100 points, a record in Premier League history. This century mark was a testament to City's consistency, ambition, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

The 2017-2018 season saw Manchester City not only win the Premier League but do so in a manner that set new standards. Under Guardiola's guidance, and with the contributions of key players and astute signings, City played some of the most exhilarating football ever seen in the league, leaving a huge mark on English football.



4) Discussion

- a) What are your thoughts on Man City's centurion season?
- b) Can you remember watching any games from that season?
- c) Which of the players mentioned do you think was most important?
- d) Do you think Manchester City's money lessened their achievements?

