

A Cidade Maravilhosa



1) Discussion

- a) Does your city have a lot of football teams? If so, which is your favourite?
 - b) What are the biggest games in your country?
 - c) Have you ever been to Brazil? If yes, how was it? If not, would you like to visit Brazil?
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2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

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| 1) Essential (adjective) | a) To organize and provide a venue for an event or activity. |
| 2) To Host (verb) | b) To be present at or participate in an event, meeting, or activity. |
| 3) To Attend (verb) | c) A point of origin or cause; a person, place, or thing from which something comes or can be obtained. |
| 4) To Go Beyond (phrasal verb) | d) To surpass or exceed; to extend or transcend the usual limits or expectations. |
| 5) A Source (noun) | e) Absolutely necessary or crucial; something that is required. |
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b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from 2a.

- 1) Thousands of fans _____ the stadium to cheer for their favourite teams during the championship.
- 2) Mexico, Canada and the USA will _____ the 2026 World Cup.
- 3) Sports journalists serve as an important _____ of information for fans, offering insights and updates on the latest in world football.
- 4) The impact of football often _____ the game itself, influencing cultural and social aspects in communities worldwide.
- 5) Having a skilled goalkeeper is _____ for a successful football team.



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

- a) How does football in Rio de Janeiro extend beyond being just a sport?

Beaches, Nature and Football

Football in Rio de Janeiro is very important for the city's culture, and many people are big fans. The city has some of Brazil's largest and most successful football clubs, making a very exciting and contagious atmosphere.

There are two main football teams in Rio – Flamengo and Fluminense. Flamengo is very popular and successful, with red and black colours. Fluminense is also well-known, with green, white, and maroon colours. The strong competition between these two teams, called "Fla-Flu," is one of the most intense and famous competitions in Brazilian football.

Botafogo and Vasco da Gama are important football clubs in Rio de Janeiro. Botafogo, founded in 1904, is known for winning awards and helping young players grow. Vasco da Gama, started in 1898, has had success and famous players. Both clubs don't just play football; Vasco helps the community with programs for kids, education, and health. They are essential in shaping Rio's football culture.

Rio de Janeiro has a history of many football firsts. In 1914, the city hosted the first international football match in South America, showing how influential it was in the sport. Maracanã Stadium, one of the most famous football stadiums globally, had the most people attending a football match during the 1950 World Cup final when Brazil played against Uruguay.

Football is essential to the people of Rio, known as *Cariocas*. It goes beyond just being a sport; it is a social and cultural event. On match days, fans celebrate with colourful displays, samba music, and lots of energy, showing the city's love for the beautiful game. Football in Rio de Janeiro is not just a game; it's a lifestyle, a source of pride, and something that brings people together to enjoy victories and celebrations.



4) Discussion

- a) What do you think of Rio de Janeiro as a football city?
- b) What comes to mind when you think about Brazilian football?
- c) Who are your favourite Brazilian players?
- d) In your opinion, what was the best World Cup of all time?

