Men’s World Cup Trivia

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. What was the trophy called when it was awarded to the 1970 World Cup champions, four years before a new trophy debuted?

A. The Jules Rimet Trophy
B. The Henri Delaunay Trophy
C. The Confederations Cup Trophy
D. The Copa América Trophy

Correct answer: A. The Jules Rimet Trophy
Brazil received the Jules Rimet Trophy after its third title in 1970. FIFA commissioned a replacement for the 1974 tournament.

2. Which men’s national team won the 2014 FIFA World Cup final against Argentina at the Maracanã in Rio de Janeiro?

A. The Netherlands
B. Brazil
C. Germany
D. France

Correct answer: C. Germany
Germany won 1–0. Mario Götze scored the only goal of the final in extra time.

3. Which country hosted the 1994 men’s FIFA World Cup?

A. Mexico
B. The United States
C. Canada
D. Brazil

Correct answer: B. The United States
The United States hosted the men’s tournament for the first time in 1994.

4. Andrés Iniesta settled the 2010 final with an extra-time goal against the Netherlands. Which country did he score for?

A. Uruguay
B. Portugal
C. Argentina
D. Spain

Correct answer: D. Spain
Iniesta’s goal gave Spain a 1–0 win in South Africa and its first men’s World Cup title.

5. In Qatar in 2022, which team beat Portugal to become the first from Africa to reach a men’s FIFA World Cup semifinal?

A. Senegal
B. Morocco
C. Cameroon
D. Ghana

Correct answer: B. Morocco
Morocco eliminated Portugal in the quarterfinal and met France in the semifinal.

6. Which French player scored both of his team’s first-half goals with headers in the 1998 final against Brazil?

A. Zinedine Zidane
B. Emmanuel Petit
C. Youri Djorkaeff
D. Didier Deschamps

Correct answer: A. Zinedine Zidane
Zidane headed in twice before halftime. France finished with a 3–0 win and its first men’s World Cup title.

7. Just Fontaine played six matches for France at Sweden 1958. How many goals did he score in that tournament?

A. 14
B. 10
C. 11
D. 13

Correct answer: D. 13
Fontaine finished with 13 goals. Four came in France’s 6–3 win against West Germany in the third-place game.

8. Roger Milla helped Cameroon win its round-of-16 match 2–1 at the 1990 tournament in Italy. Which team did Cameroon eliminate?

A. Argentina
B. Romania
C. Colombia
D. England

Correct answer: C. Colombia
Cameroon beat Colombia to reach the quarterfinals. Milla scored after taking the ball from Colombia goalkeeper René Higuita.

9. Australia scored three late goals for a 3–1 win in its opening match at Germany 2006. Which team was on the other side of that result?

A. Japan
B. Croatia
C. Brazil
D. Italy

Correct answer: A. Japan
Australia beat Japan for its first men’s World Cup match win. Tim Cahill scored twice, then John Aloisi added Australia’s third goal.

10. In a 1966 quarterfinal, Portugal trailed 3–0 before winning 5–3 with four goals from Eusébio. Which team had taken the early lead?

A. Hungary
B. South Korea
C. Bulgaria
D. North Korea

Correct answer: D. North Korea
North Korea, listed as Korea DPR in FIFA’s records, went three goals up. Eusébio scored four of the five goals that took Portugal through.

11. In the 1950 final round, Brazil had two wins before meeting Uruguay, which had one win and one draw. With two points for a win and one for a draw, what would their point totals have been if the last match had ended level?

A. Brazil 4, Uruguay 5
B. Brazil 5, Uruguay 5
C. Brazil 5, Uruguay 4
D. Brazil 6, Uruguay 4

Correct answer: C. Brazil 5, Uruguay 4
A draw would have added one point to Brazil’s four and Uruguay’s three. Uruguay actually won the match 2–1 and finished ahead.

12. The men’s World Cup grew from 24 teams to 32 in 1998. Europe’s allocation increased by two places and South America’s by one. Together, what fraction of the increase did they account for?

A. 3 of the 32 total places
B. 3 of the 8 added places
C. 2 of the 8 added places
D. 5 of the 8 added places

Correct answer: B. 3 of the 8 added places
The field gained 32 − 24 = 8 places. The two regions together accounted for 2 + 1 = 3 of those places.

13. Germany’s Miroslav Klose scored five goals in 2002 and five in 2006. He finished with 16 goals when his World Cup career ended in 2014. How many came in his two later tournaments combined?

A. 11
B. 5
C. 10
D. 6

Correct answer: D. 6
The first two tournaments accounted for 10 of his 16 goals. The other six came in 2010 and 2014.

14. Japan and Senegal finished level on group points, goal difference, and goals scored in 2018. They also drew their match. Which entry explains how FIFA awarded Group H’s last spot in the knockout stage?

A. Japan advanced because it had the better fair-play score.
B. Japan advanced because it had a better overall goal difference.
C. Senegal advanced because it won the match between them.
D. Senegal advanced because it had the better fair-play score.

Correct answer: A. Japan advanced because it had the better fair-play score.
FIFA used the teams’ disciplinary records to break the tie. Japan had −4 fair-play points and Senegal had −6, so Japan advanced.

15. An archive shows Italy and Spain drawing 1–1 after extra time in a 1934 quarterfinal, followed by Italy winning 1–0 the next day. Why does the same quarterfinal have two match entries?

A. The second entry records the first match’s penalty shootout.
B. The round had two scheduled legs, with advancement based on the combined score.
C. The tied first match required a replay, which Italy won to advance.
D. The first match ended in the groups and the second belonged to the semifinals.

Correct answer: C. The tied first match required a replay, which Italy won to advance.
The 1934 format called for a new match when a knockout game stayed tied after extra time. Italy went through by winning the replay 1–0.