

## 1 Warmer

1. Do you like to watch the World Cup?
2. What do you know about the history of the tournament?

### The 2022 World Cup

The FIFA World Cup® is a men's football tournament held every four years, usually in the summer. Regional qualifying rounds take place up to three years prior to the final tournament, which is celebrated at a neutral site. It's the most popular sporting event in the world, with billions of people tuning in.

This competition was first broadcast live in 1954 (Switzerland), but only to a limited number of countries. The 1966 tournament, in England, was the first time that people on different continents could watch the game on television.



In Mexico, 1970, people could watch the games in colour, a major technological and commercial breakthrough. Almost a seventh of the world population viewed the final match in 2018, the most watched in World Cup history.

The first tournament took place in Uruguay, in 1930, and the hosts were the first world champions after defeating Argentina. Since then, 17 countries have hosted the tournament, with Mexico, Italy, France, Germany, and Brazil being the only countries to do so more than once. Eight national teams have won the tournament, with Brazil having won five of them.

The 2022 tournament will take place in Qatar, and will be the first in the Arab world. Because it is very hot there in the summer, it was planned for later in the year, being the first ever to be played in the late autumn. It is also the last time that 32 teams will play each other. This number will increase to 48 in 2026.

### Glossary

**host (verb):** to arrange a special event and provide the area, buildings, equipment, or services needed for it

**host (noun):** a place or organization that arranges a special event and provides the area, buildings, equipment, or services needed for it

## 2 Understanding the article

### A Choose the correct way to finish each sentence.

1. Almost a seventh of the world watched...
  - a ... the 2006 World Cup tournament.
  - b ... the final World Cup match in 2018.
2. In 1930, Uruguay...
  - a ... hosted and won the first World Cup.
  - b ... invented football.

3. People could first watch the World Cup on television...
  - a ... in 1954.
  - b ... in 1970.
  
4. The first tournament broadcast in colour was held in...
  - a ... Mexico.
  - b ... Germany.
  
5. The 2022 World Cup was scheduled for later in the year because...
  - a ... more national teams will participate.
  - b ... of the very hot weather in Qatar in the summer.

### 3 Exploring the topic

- a. Choose one of the topics below. Research it and make notes.
  - the first time your country took part in the World Cup
  - Pelé / Maradona
  - teams with the most wins: Brazil / Italy / Germany
  - the Golden Boot and its winners
- b. Use your notes to write one more paragraph for the article about an important event in the history of the World Cup.