

If you only have 15 minutes ...

Reread the sections, “Football’s World Journey,” and “Art, Food and the Feel of Home.”

Observe (3 minutes)

- Identify three details that show how football brings people together across cultures.¹

Discuss (10 minutes)

Football and Community

- How does football help create a sense of community and belonging? Use at least one example from the text to support your answer.²

Shared Experiences Across Cultures

How do music, art and food help football fans feel connected, even when living in different countries? Use evidence from the text.³

A Global Game

Why has football become popular in so many different parts of the world? What details from the article support your thinking?⁴

Reflect (2 minutes)

The article ends by saying football can make people whomever met feel like neighbors. Do you agree with this idea? Why or why not?⁵

Common Core Standard(s) Met:

CCRA.R.1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

CCRA.R.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

1 Students should identify details showing that football connects people across cultures.

Possible responses:

- Football connects people through music, art, food and cultural experiences.
- Communities made football part of local identity and pride.
- National teams create feelings of unity, celebration and recognition.
- Fans gather in homes, cafés and restaurants to watch matches together.

Possible evidence:

- “Closely tied to neighborhood identity and pride”
- “Feelings of unity, celebration and recognition”
- “Families and friends gather in homes, cafes and restaurants”

2 Football and Community:

Football helps create community because people gather around the game in neighborhoods, stadiums, homes and public places. The article shows that clubs became gathering places and that fans use football to express pride and belonging.

Possible evidence:

- “Local clubs served as gathering places for families and communities”
- “Football became closely tied to neighborhood identity and pride.”

3 Shared Experiences Across Cultures

Music, art and food help fans feel connected because they give people shared ways to participate. Chants and songs allow crowds to respond together. Tifos and murals turn support into visual expression. Food brings families and communities together while watching matches.

Possible evidence:

- “Official World Cup songs extend this sense of connection.”
- “Of the most striking examples is the *tifo*, large, coordinated displays created by supporters using banners, flags and placards.”
- “Sharing meals connected to their heritage”

4 Football became popular globally because it spread through trade routes, railways and shipping networks, then local communities made it their own. National teams later gave countries a way to represent themselves internationally.

Possible evidence:

- “Trade routes, railways and shipping networks helped carried football across the globe.”
- “National teams began to allow countries to represent themselves on the world stage.”

5 Answers will vary, but students should explain whether they agree that football can make strangers feel like neighbors.

Strong responses may mention shared emotions during a match; cheering for the same team; music, food or traditions; national or community pride; feeling connected to people in other places.