

# The 1930 World Cup



<http://younglearners.eslreading.org/football/home.html>

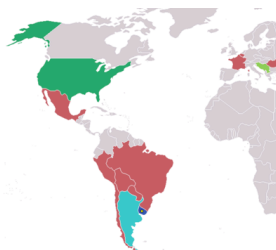
**In 1930 FIFA introduced a new tournament, open to all member countries. This 'football olympics', named after FIFA President, Jules Rimet, would take place every four years.**

## A World Cup?

Thirteen countries participated in the inaugural Jules Rimet Trophy in 1930.

There were seven countries from South America:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru & Uruguay. Mexico & the USA represented Central & North America.



FIFA held their tournament in Montevideo because Uruguay were the Olympic Champions. This did not please the Europeans, while the English FA were still refusing to recognise FIFA in a dispute over paying players.

In the end, only four countries came from Europe: Belgium, Rumania, Yugoslavia and France. Rumania entered on the personal instructions of King Carol, who also selected the team. Some English players also played for the USA

All games were played at the Centenario Stadium in Montevideo.

## Crossing Continents

The first World Cup was held before it was possible to travel between continents by air. A sea journey from Europe to South America took several weeks and was very expensive. The French, Belgian, Yugoslav & Rumanian players travelled to Montevideo on the same ship.

The French travelled first class, while the other



teams could only afford third class travel. But all the players trained together on the deck of the boat.

## First Goal

The first official World Cup match was between France and Mexico in front of just 3,000 spectators. There were no television or film cameras present. France won 4-1 and Lucien Laurent's 19th minute goal was the first in World Cup history.

France went out against Argentina, losing 1-0 in very strange circumstances. The referee blew the final whistle six minutes early. Some were already in the bath when they were called back to to finish the game.

## First Final

The First World Cup Final was a local 'derby' between Uruguay and Argentina. An estimated 100,000 fans came to the Centenario Stadium for the final on 30 July. They watched in near silence as Argentina dominated the first half and took a 2-1 lead.



But in the second half Uruguay came back to win 4 - 2.

*Uruguay players celebrate.*

See a clip of the 1930 World Cup Final: <http://tinyurl.com/2wrubwq>

More World Cup history, quiz & learning activities here: <http://tinyurl.com/37v3l6p>