

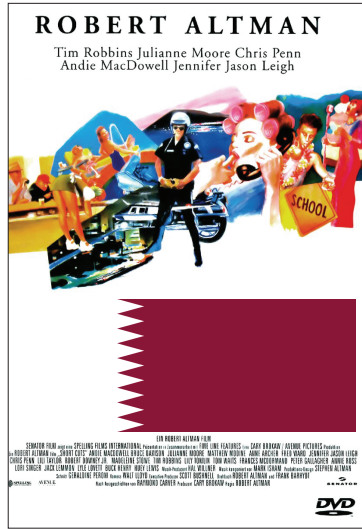
# Location: Kicking off at the movies



It's time for the World Cup! But first we need the teams to stop watching movies all day.



**NORTH BY NORTHWEST**



**SHORT CUTS**



**SWEET HOME ALABAMA**



**THE HATE U GIVE**



**VICTOR/VICTORIA**

- 1982: VICTOR / VICTORIA    1 + RIA C SYRIA
- 1993: SHORT CUTS    CUT + 2 R QATAR
- 1959: NORTH BY NORTHWEST    NORW + 3 A NORWAY
- 2002: SWEET HOME ALABAMA    SWEET + 4 N SWEDEN
- 2018: THE HATE U GIVE    HATE + 5 E HAITI

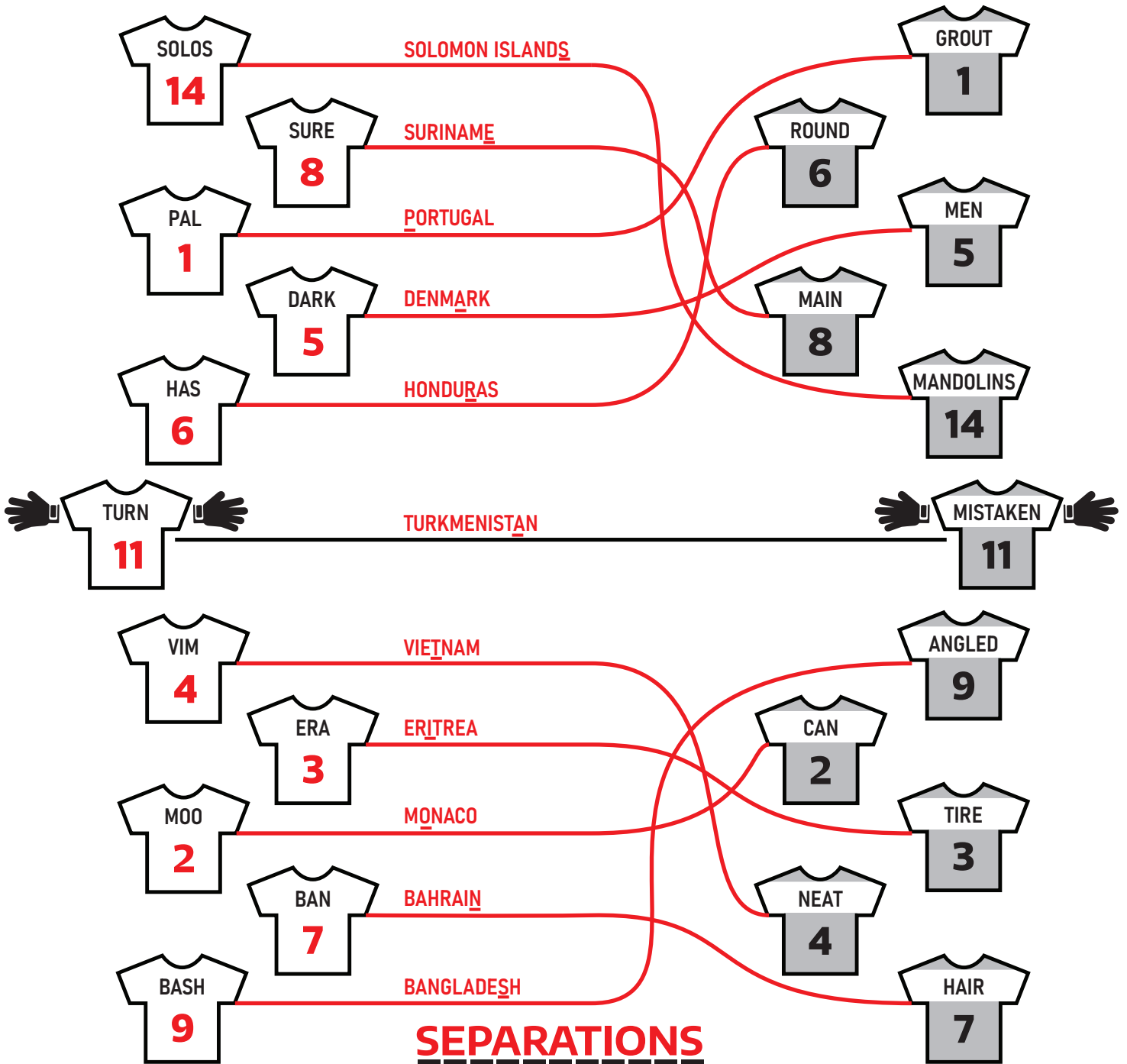
U  
? + CRANE  
12345

**ANSWER:**  
UKRAINE

# Player matchups



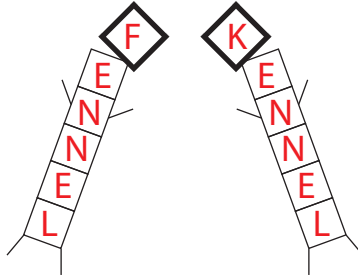
In this **international** game, the coach of team White discovered a perfect way to assign each of the players to cover an opponent on team Gray, based on the names on the jerseys, but the coach of team Gray decided to **mix up** the names before the players were **inserted** in the game. We know that the two goalies go together, and the players can't cross the solid line. Can you determine the original defensive matchups and discover what the players need in order to score?



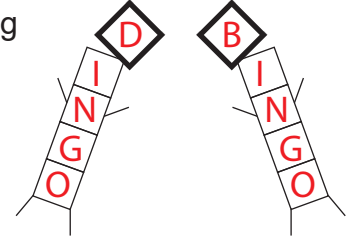


Heading the ball can be dangerous. These opposing players have identical bodies from shoulder to toe, but when they head the ball at the same time, what's inside their heads falls to the ground!

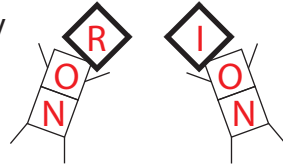
Anise-like herb



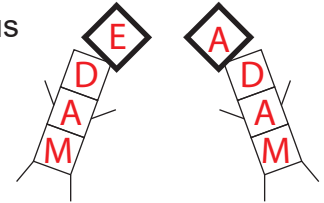
Australian wild dog



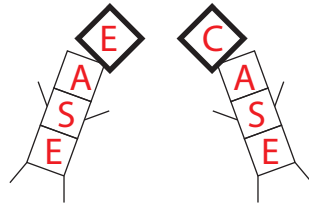
Youngest Weasley boy



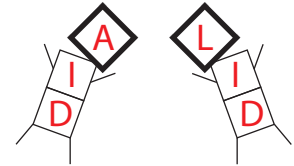
Dutch town, famous for cheese



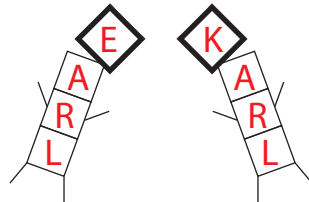
Make less severe



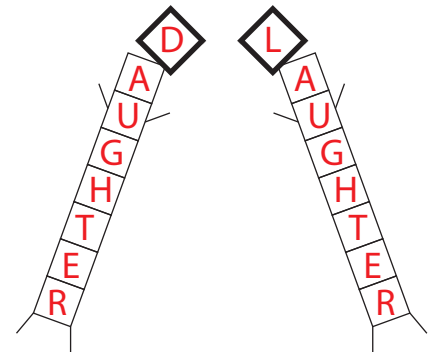
Assistance



British nobleman title



Female child



FREE   KICK  
5   463

DEAD   BALL  
97   128

### Clue bank

Animal shelter • Biblical man • Charged particle • Cover •  
Five in a row • Philosopher, familiarly • The best medicine? • Trial

Where the action of this game is taking place:

**ANSWER:** BACKFIELD



Some strange mascots have invaded the stadium! What are they doing?

**This creature...**

... holds a **hot drink container** at halftime

... **goes down a hill**

... **starts** the game **over**

... makes a **bell sound**

... **bothers** the spectators

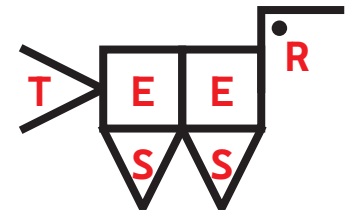
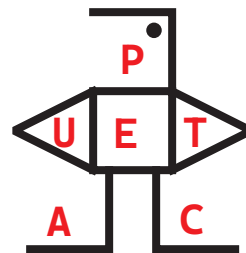
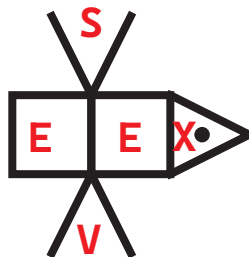
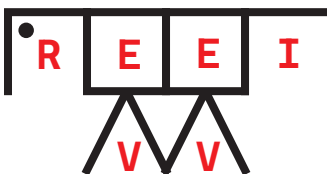
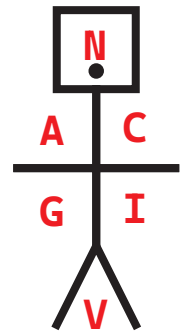
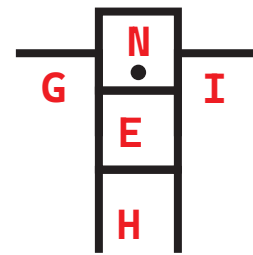
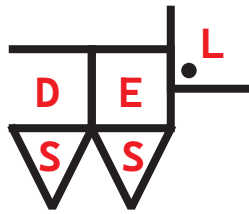
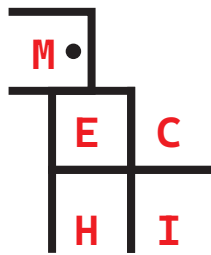
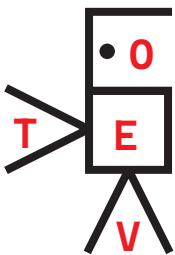
... can **choose** to play

... needs to **wake up or regain strength**

... likes to **bellow or bray**

... is **giving in** to peer pressure

TEACUP  
SLEDS  
RESETS  
CHIME  
VEXES  
VOTE  
REVIVE  
NEIGH  
CAVING



**ANSWER:**

**ASSISTING**



# Rules & regulations



Sometimes soccer rules can be confusing. Players might need some help figuring out what you can and can't do during a game.

	Players can:	How about...	Can do	or	Can't do
	see a gnat, debt, or ghost, but not a hand. <b>silent letter</b>	lamb	<u>L</u> <u>A</u> <u>M</u> <u>B</u>		<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>
	herd deer, sheep or moose, but not cheetahs. <b>plural = singular</b>	<u>salmon</u>	<u>S</u> <u>A</u> <u>L</u> <u>M</u> <u>O</u> <u>N</u>		<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>
	sell boxes, matches, or brushes, but not cleats. <b>ends with -es</b>	uniforms	<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>		<u>U</u> <u>N</u> <u>I</u> <u>F</u> <u>O</u> <u>R</u> <u>M</u> <u>S</u>
	be ambitious, beautiful, or bureaucratic, but not happy. <b>3 consecutive vowels</b>	<u>queasy</u>	<u>Q</u> <u>E</u> <u>E</u> <u>A</u> <u>S</u> <u>Y</u>		<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>
	enjoy greenness, stubbornness, or bookkeepers, but not happiness. <b>3x double letters</b>	moodiness	<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>		<u>M</u> <u>O</u> <u>O</u> <u>D</u> <u>I</u> <u>N</u> <u>E</u> <u>S</u> <u>S</u>
	play with honesty, footwork, or intensity, but not with grace. <b>hidden numbers</b>	passion	<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>		<u>P</u> <u>A</u> <u>S</u> <u>S</u> <u>I</u> <u>O</u> <u>N</u>
	sit in a kayak, recliner, or arena, but not in a chair. <b>first letter = last letter</b>	<u>tent</u>	<u>T</u> <u>E</u> <u>N</u> <u>T</u>		<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>
	be unorthodox, yeasty, or newest, but not downy. <b>hidden directions</b>	shallowest	<u>S</u> <u>H</u> <u>A</u> <u>L</u> <u>L</u> <u>O</u> <u>W</u> <u>E</u> <u>S</u> <u>T</u>		<u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u> <u>  </u>

**ANSWER:**

What famous person can give you a hand figuring out the rules? **MARADONA**






# Meta: Wordle Cup



The Wordle Cup match has gone to penalty kicks! The coach makes a five-letter meaningful selection from each of your previous answers to participate in the shootout.

Find out what makes this game so special.

-  Not in word
-  In word, but wrong location
-  In word, right location

Player Matchups	SEPA	R	A	T	I	O	NS
Heading	BACK	F	I	E	L	D	
Mascots	ASSI	S	T	I	N	G	
Rules & Regulations	MA	R	A	D	O	N	A
<b>ANSWER:</b>		F	I	N	A	L	

# Bonus: Cleats



Seven soccer players, Abby, Briana, Cristiano, Diego, Essam, Fernando, and Gina, are comparing their soccer cleats. Each of them is wearing footwear with 5 cleats in a row, but some cleats are white, and some are black. Can you figure out each player's unique pattern and determine what they are trying to avoid?



- Each player has 1, 2, or 3 black cleats.
- Each player wears a different uniform number between 1 and 7.
- Essam has a cleat pattern that is a mirror image of the pattern of player #4.
- Abby and player #7 are the only players with three black cleats.
- Diego has a cleat pattern that is a mirror image of Cristiano's pattern with 2 black cleats, and the black cleats are not next to each other.
- Briana wears #7 and has two white cleats next to each other surrounded by black cleats.
- Player #1 and Gina have more white cleats than anyone else.
- Essam's white cleats are all next to each other.
- Abby is the only player with a cleat pattern that is its own mirror image.
- #7 is the only player with 2 black cleats in the leftmost positions.
- Essam wears an odd-numbered jersey.
- Gina wears #4 and does not have a black cleat in the leftmost position.
- Diego and #5 have two white cleats in the rightmost positions.
- Player #3 has three black cleats in a row.
- Fernando has a white cleat in the leftmost position.
- Essam and Cristiano each have the number of black cleats that matches their respective jersey number.

