

Iconic Strikers: Romário



1) Discussion

- a) Who are some of your favourite South American strikers?
 - b) Who are your favourite 90s strikers?
 - a) Can you name some strikers to play in the Netherlands and Spain?
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2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

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| 1) Consistency (noun) | a) Full of famous or talented people. |
| 2) Star-Studded (adjective) | b) A short period of time spent doing a specific activity. |
| 3) To Devastate (verb) | c) To support or argue for a cause or policy. |
| 4) Stint (noun) | d) To change from one state or condition to another. |
| 5) To Transition (verb) | e) To completely destroy or cause great damage. |
| 6) To Advocate (verb) | f) Always doing something the same way or getting the same result. |
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b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.

Consistency

Star-Studded

To Devastate

Stint

To Transition

To Advocate

- 1) After retiring from playing, Frank Lampard decided _____ from footballer to manager, taking charge of Derby County and then Chelsea.
- 2) Didier Drogba has used his platform to _____ for peace and development in his home country, Ivory Coast.
- 3) Gianluigi Buffon is known for his _____ as a goalkeeper, rarely making mistakes throughout his long career.
- 4) In the 2014 World Cup, Germany managed _____ Brazil 7-1 in the semifinals.
- 5) The 2003-2004 Arsenal team was _____, featuring players like Thierry Henry, Dennis Bergkamp, and Patrick Vieira.
- 6) Zlatan Ibrahimović had a brief _____ with Barcelona before moving to AC Milan.



3) Quick Read - Read the article quickly and answer the question.

- a) What clubs are mentioned in the article and what did he do after his career?

Romário da Souza Faria

Romário da Souza Faria, widely known simply as Romário, began his illustrious career at Vasco da Gama in 1985. The young striker quickly established himself as a prolific goal-scorer, netting 73 goals in 123 appearances. His extraordinary talent caught the attention of European scouts, and in 1988, he made a significant move to Dutch giants PSV Eindhoven.

At PSV, Romário's goal-scoring prowess continued to shine. Over five seasons, he scored an impressive 98 goals in 110 matches, helping the team secure three Eredivisie titles and two KNVB cups. His time in the Netherlands showcased his incredible ability to find the back of the net with remarkable consistency, solidifying his reputation as one of the best forwards in the world.

In 1993, Romário transferred to FC Barcelona, where he joined a star-studded squad under the management of Johan Cruyff. Barcelona's "Dream Team" included talents like Hristo Stoichkov, Michael Laudrup, and Ronald Koeman. Romário's partnership with Stoichkov was particularly formidable, as the two forwards combined their skills to devastate defences across Europe. During his two seasons with Barcelona, Romário scored 34 goals in 46 appearances and played a crucial role in securing the La Liga title in the 1993-94 season.

Romário's success extended to the international stage with the Brazilian national team. He was instrumental in Brazil's journey to an Olympic silver medal in 1988. His crowning achievement came in the 1994 FIFA World Cup, where he led Brazil to victory, scoring five goals and earning the Golden Ball as the tournament's best player.

After his peak years in Europe, Romário's career saw him playing in various leagues around the world, including stints in Brazil, where he enjoyed huge success with Vasco de Gama, Qatar, and the United States. He continued to score goals



prolifically, ultimately surpassing the milestone of 1,000 career goals, although this count includes unofficial matches.

In retirement, Romário transitioned into a political career, serving as a member of the Brazilian Senate. His post-football life has been marked by his dedication to social causes, particularly advocating for the rights of people with disabilities. Romário da Souza Faria remains a legendary figure in football history, celebrated for his extraordinary goal-scoring ability and his contributions to the sport both on and off the field.

4) Discussion

- a) What are your thoughts on Romário's career?
- b) How much do you think he would be worth in today's market?
- c) Why do you think Romário isn't as celebrated as Ronaldo?
- d) Where does he rank in your all-time Brazilian strikers list? Who else is in your top 5?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

