

## Iconic Strikers: Thierry Henry



### 1) Discussion

- a) Who are your favourite French strikers?
  - b) Who are your favourite strikers from the Premier League?
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### 2) Vocabulary

#### a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

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|------------------------|--|
| 1) Tutelage (noun)     | a) Guidance or teaching, often by a mentor or teacher. |
| 2) To Flourish (verb)  | b) The ability to do many different things.            |
| 3) To Integrate (verb) | c) To deeply respect or admire someone or something.   |
| 4) Versatility (noun)  | d) Very large in size, amount, or extent.              |
| 5) Vast (adjective)    | e) To combine or join with something to make a whole.  |
| 6) To Revere (verb)    | f) To grow or develop successfully.                    |



**b) Complete the sentences with the correct form of the vocabulary from exercise 2a.**

Tutelage

To Flourish

Integrate

Versatility

Vast

To Revere

- 1) When Zlatan Ibrahimović moved to LA Galaxy, he managed to \_\_\_\_\_ seamlessly into the team, quickly becoming a fan favourite.
- 2) Joshua Kimmich's \_\_\_\_\_ makes him invaluable to Bayern Munich, as he can play both in midfield and defence with equal skill.
- 3) Under the \_\_\_\_\_ of Pep Guardiola, Kevin De Bruyne has become one of the best midfielders in the world.
- 4) Football fans around the world \_\_\_\_\_ Pelé for his incredible contributions to the sport and his lasting legacy.
- 5) Mohamed Salah began to \_\_\_\_\_ at Liverpool, becoming one of the Premier League's top scorers.
- 6) The \_\_\_\_\_ experience of players like Gianluigi Buffon has been crucial in guiding younger teammates at Juventus.



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

- a) How did Thierry Henry's career change when he moved from Juventus to Arsenal?

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#### Thierry Henry

Thierry Henry, born on August 17, 1977, in Les Ulis, France, began his football journey at a young age. His exceptional talent soon saw him join AS Monaco's youth academy in 1992. Under the tutelage of Arsène Wenger, Henry debuted for Monaco in 1994, displaying his potential with blistering pace and technical skills. He helped Monaco secure the Ligue 1 title in the 1996-97 season and earned the Ligue 1 Young Player of the Year award in 1996. His performance earned him a transfer to Juventus in January 1999, but his time in Italy was challenging, with limited opportunities and a positional mismatch on the wing.

Henry's career took a transformative turn when he reunited with Wenger at Arsenal in August 1999. Wenger's vision of deploying Henry as a central striker paid off spectacularly. Henry flourished in the Premier League, becoming Arsenal's all-time leading scorer with 228 goals. During his eight-year stint, he led the Gunners to two Premier League titles (2001-02, 2003-04) and two FA Cups (2001-02, 2002-03). Notably, Henry was pivotal in Arsenal's "Invincibles" season in 2003-04, where they remained unbeaten throughout the league campaign, a feat unmatched in modern Premier League history. Henry won the Premier League Golden Boot four times (2001-02, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06) and was twice named the PFA Players' Player of the Year (2002-03, 2003-04).

In 2007, Henry moved to FC Barcelona, where he integrated into a star-studded squad alongside Lionel Messi and Samuel Eto'o. His contributions were vital in the 2008-09 season, as Barcelona secured an unprecedented treble, winning La Liga, the Copa del Rey, and the UEFA Champions League. Henry's versatility and experience complemented a team renowned for its attacking prowess, and he added a second European title to his collection when Barcelona won the UEFA Super Cup and the FIFA Club World Cup in 2009.

Henry concluded his illustrious playing career with the New York Red Bulls in Major League Soccer from 2010 to 2014. In New York, he continued to exhibit his class and



leadership, helping the team clinch the 2013 Supporters' Shield. Despite the less competitive nature of MLS compared to European leagues, Henry's impact on and off the pitch was significant, enhancing the league's profile globally.

On the international stage, Henry was instrumental for France, winning the 1998 FIFA World Cup and UEFA Euro 2000. He also played a crucial role in France's run to the 2006 World Cup final, where they finished as runners-up. With 51 goals in 123 appearances, Henry remains France's second-highest goal scorer.

Henry's legacy as a prolific striker and a key figure in both club and international football remains indisputable. Post-retirement, he transitioned into coaching and punditry, sharing his vast knowledge and passion for the game. His influence extends beyond his playing years, making him a revered figure in the footballing world.

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### 4) Discussion

- a) What are your thoughts on Thierry Henry's career?
- b) Is he the best Premier League striker you've seen?
- c) What do you think about his time at Barcelona?
- d) In 2003 and 2004, Henry was runner up in the Ballon d'or, do you think he deserved to win?

