

U20 World Cup Stars



1) Discussion

- a) Who are some of the best young players you've seen?
 - b) Can you think of any amazing players under the age of 20 now?
-

2) Vocabulary

a) Match the vocabulary to the definition.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1) Springboard (noun) | a) Something that helps you start or make progress in something else. |
| 2) Glimpse (noun) | b) Someone who is from the same country as you. |
| 3) Flashy (adjective) | c) A quick look or brief view of something. |
| 4) Contagious (adjective) | d) When something, like a feeling or behavior, spreads easily from one person to another. |
| 5) Compatriot (noun) | e) Shiny or sparkling, successful |
| 6) Instrumental (adjective) | f) Something or someone that is essential or very important in making something happen. |
| 7) Glittering (adjective) | g) Something that is bright, colorful, or attracts attention because it's showy. |
-



b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.

Springboard

Glimpse

Flashy

Contagious

Compatriot

Instrumental

Glittering

- 1) The youth football tournament serves as a _____ platform for young talents to showcase their skills on the global stage.
- 2) Neymar's _____ style of play captivated audiences during his early playing days at Santos.
- 3) Messi and his _____ celebrated winning the World Cup.
- 4) The passion for football is _____, with people from every country coming together to watch the World Cup.
- 5) Harry Kane's _____ Premier League career at Tottenham ended when he moved to Bayern Munich.
- 6) During his time at Lille, Eden Hazard gave us a _____ into what to expect before his move to Chelsea.
- 7) N'golo Kanta's role in midfield was _____ to Leicester City's success in winning the Premier League.



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

- a) What players are mentioned in the article?

Stars of the Future

The U20 World Cup can often be a springboard for future greatness, with past stars gaining valuable tournament experience and a chance to show what they can do. Let's take a look at some famous players who made their mark in this tournament.

In 1979, Diego Maradona, a small but incredibly talented player from Argentina, caught everyone's attention with his amazing skills. Argentina won their first title and Maradona showed the world glimpses of his future greatness.

In 1999, Ronaldinho, a Brazilian player known for his flashy style, amazing dribbling and contagious smile, led his team to the Quarter-Finals, scoring three goals along the way. These performances were just the beginning of Ronaldinho's incredible career, which made him one of football's biggest stars.

In 2005, Lionel Messi, another Argentine player, helped his team win the U20 World Cup with his incredible talent. He was top-scorer with 6 goals, and also picked up the Golden Ball award for his performances. This was just the start of Messi's journey to becoming one of the best players ever seen in the game.

Two years later, in 2007, Sergio Agüero, also from Argentina, showed off his scoring skills as he helped his team win the U20 World Cup again. Like his compatriot, he was top scorer with 6 goals and also picked up the Golden Ball award. This success set the stage for the soon-to-be Man City legend's impressive career.



In 2013, Paul Pogba, a French player, was instrumental in guiding his team to victory in the U20 World Cup with his strong play in midfield. His performances earned him the Golden Ball award and set him up for a glittering career that would see him win multiple trophies, including the World Cup in 2018.

These players are proof of how the U20 World Cup can help young talents shine and become future stars in football. As the 2024 edition begins, fans are excited to see which new players will make their mark on the tournament and maybe even become the next big thing in football.

4) Discussion

- a) What are your thoughts on the U20 World Cup after reading the article?
- b) Which player mentioned in the article is your favourite?
- c) Who are the best young players from your country?

