

## Pavel Nedvěd



### 1) Discussion

- a) Can you think of any good footballers from the Czech Republic?
  - b) Who were your favourite midfielders in the 2000s?
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### 2) Vocabulary

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

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|------------------|--|
| 1) To Commence   | a) Very important or big.  |
| 2) Major         | b) A person who helps lead a company or organization, second in command. |
| 3) Indispensable | c) To win.   |
| 4) To Clinch     | d) A temporary ban from playing.   |
| 5) Suspension    | e) To end a relationship.  |
| 6) Sever ties    | f) Very necessary.   |
| 7) Vice-Chairman | g) To start.   |
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**b) Complete the sentences with the vocabulary from exercise 2a.**

To Commence                      Major                      Indispensable                      To Clinch  
Suspension                      Severe Ties                      Vice-Chairman

- 1) N'Golo Kanté's role in midfield was \_\_\_\_\_ to Chelsea's success in the 2021 Champions League.
- 2) Roy Keane couldn't play in the 1999 Champions League because of a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) After retiring, Edwin van der Sar became the \_\_\_\_\_ of Ajax, helping to guide the club off the field.
- 4) In 2019, Antoine Griezmann decided to \_\_\_\_\_ with Atlético Madrid to join Barcelona.
- 5) Erling Haaland's career in professional football \_\_\_\_\_ when he joined Molde FK in Norway.
- 6) Winning the Champions League is a \_\_\_\_\_ achievement for any football club.
- 7) In 2018, Luka Modrić helped Real Madrid \_\_\_\_\_ their third consecutive Champions League title.



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

a) In what year did Pavel Nedvěd win the Ballon d'Or?

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#### Pavel Nedvěd

Pavel Nedvěd is a well-known footballer from the Czech Republic. He commenced his career in his home country with Dukla Prague, but he became popular when he joined Sparta Prague in 1992. At Sparta Prague, Nedvěd showed his talent, helping the team in securing three league titles.

In 1996, Nedvěd moved to Italy to join Lazio. At Lazio, he won several major trophies, including the Italian Cup (Coppa Italia) in 1998 and 2000, the Italian league title (Serie A) in 2000, and the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1999. His skills and dedication made him an indispensable player for the team.

In 2001, Nedvěd transferred to Juventus. At Juventus, he continued to improve, clinching the Serie A title in 2002 and 2003. One of his most memorable achievements was leading Juventus to the Champions League final in 2003. Unfortunately, he could not participate in the final match due to a suspension, and Juventus lost to AC Milan on penalties. His performances in the Champions League helped him win the 2003 Ballon d'Or, making Nedvěd the best player in the World for that year.

Despite Juventus being relegated to Serie B in 2006 due to a scandal, Nedvěd chose to stay with the team. His loyalty and leadership were important in helping Juventus return to Serie A the following year.

After retiring from professional football in 2009, Nedvěd did not sever ties with Juventus. He became a director and later became the vice-chairman of the club. In this capacity, he continued to contribute to Juventus' success until he left the club in January 2023.

Pavel Nedvěd's career is a testament to talent, dedication, and loyalty. From his early days in the Czech Republic to his triumphs in Italy, he has consistently exhibited a strong commitment to his teams, earning respect and admiration from fans and fellow players worldwide.



#### 4) Discussion

- a) What do you think about the career of Pavel Nedvěd?
- b) Do you think he was a good choice for the 2003 Ballon d'Or?
- c) Do you think he should have left Juventus when they got relegated in 2006?

