

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The World's Greatest Soccer Showdown: What is The World Cup?

### Short Answer Key

1. The FIFA World Cup takes place every four years. The first tournament was held in 1930 in Uruguay.
2. The FIFA World Cup consists of several stages, including the group stage, knockout rounds, quarter-finals, semi-finals, and the grand finale. In the group stage, 32 teams are divided into eight groups of four teams each. The top two teams from each group advance to the knockout rounds, where they compete in single-elimination matches until a champion is determined in the grand finale.
3. The FIFA World Cup Trophy is a solid 18-carat gold trophy that symbolizes the pinnacle of achievement in international soccer. It is the ultimate goal for every participating team, and winning it is considered the highest honor in the sport.
4. The FIFA World Cup is considered a cultural extravaganza because it brings fans from all over the world together to celebrate their national pride through music, dance, food, and colorful attire. Fans create a vibrant and diverse atmosphere that reflects the global nature of the tournament.
5. Memorable moments from past FIFA World Cup tournaments include Diego Maradona's "Hand of God" goal in 1986 and Pelé's iconic bicycle kick in 1970. These moments are celebrated for their exceptional skill and drama.

