

The Socceroos

The Australian men's national soccer team are called the 'Socceroos'. The nickname was first used in 1967 on a trip to South Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

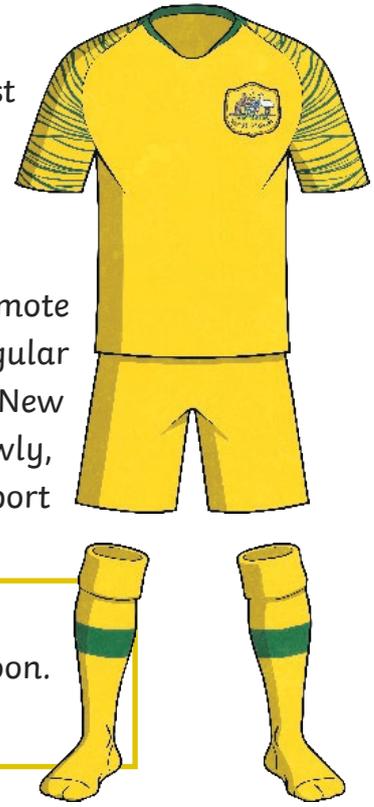
First Game

The Australian men's national team first played against New Zealand in 1922. Australia played bravely but the final score was New Zealand 3 - 1 Australia. They have been rivals ever since.

More international matches followed but Australia's remote location meant that the national team struggled to play regular games. The majority of games were against old rivals New Zealand as well as South Africa, Canada and India. Slowly, the team grew stronger as did the popularity of the sport among the Australian people.

Did You Know...?

The first Australian soccer uniform was sky blue and maroon. Soon after, the team changed to green and gold.



Success

Australia has played at The World Cup five times. The first time was in 1974 where they drew one game and lost two. Many years passed until Australia qualified again for the famous competition in 2006, 2010 and 2014. Excitingly, Australia will play in The World Cup to be hosted by Russia.

Beyond the World Cup, Australia has been successful in other competitions.

Australia won the Asian Cup in 2015; in the final, they defeated South Korea 2-1.

Australia won the OFC (Oceania Football Confederation) Nations Cup in 1980, 1996, 2000 and 2004 before leaving to join the larger AFC (Asian Football Confederation).



Australia finished second at the Confederations Cup in 1997; however, they lost 6-0 to Brazil in the final.

Australia's biggest win was against American Samoa in 2001. The final score was 31-0; it was the highest ever score in an international game.

Australia's World Cup Results

Won – 2

Drawn – 3

Lost – 8

Star Player**Tim Cahill**

Tim Cahill was born in Sydney on 6th December 1979. His father is English and his mother is Samoan. He has played more than 100 games for Australia and he is considered to be one

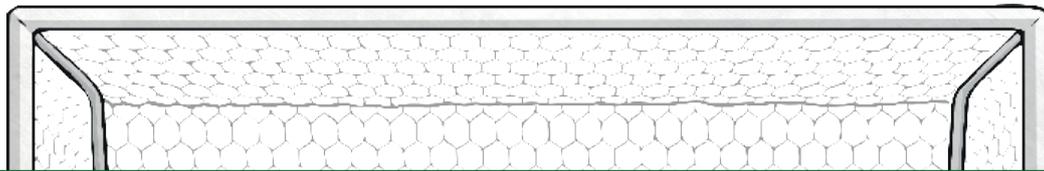
of Australia's greatest ever players. He is a forward and has scored 50 goals for his country. Famous for his boxing goal celebrations, this will most likely be his last World Cup.

Coach

The Socceroos head coach is Bert van Marwijk. Before coaching Australia, he was the head coach for the national teams of Saudi Arabia and the Netherlands as well as several soccer clubs in Europe.

Mile!

The captain of the Socceroos is Mile Jedinak. Mile was born and raised in Sydney. He plays as a midfielder for Aston Villa in the English Premier League. He has captained the Socceroos more than 25 times and he has made more than 60 appearances for his country!

**The World Cup**

The competition starts on 14th June 2018. Australia is in Group C. The other teams in Group C are France, Peru and Denmark. If the Socceroos are successful at the group stage, they could play current champions Germany and former champions Brazil in the knockout rounds. The final will take place on 15th July 2018.

Questions

1. What country did Australia play their first game against? Tick one.

- Peru
- New Zealand
- Canada
- India

2. What year did Australia play its first international soccer match? Tick one.

- 1922
- 1976
- 2006
- 2018

3. Which country did Australia defeat 31-0?

4. Match the event in the Socceroos history to the year it happened.

The Socceroos first played in a World Cup.	2015
Australia finished second in the Confederations Cup.	1997
Australia won the Asian Cup.	1974

5. Fill in the missing words:

The other teams in Group C with Australia at The World Cup are _____, _____ and _____.

6. In your opinion, what makes Tim Cahill a star player?

7. Find and copy a word which means **faraway**.

8. In your opinion, will the Socceroos be successful at The World Cup? Give at least one reason for your answer.

Answers

1. What country did Australia play their first game against? Tick one.

- Peru
- New Zealand**
- Canada
- India

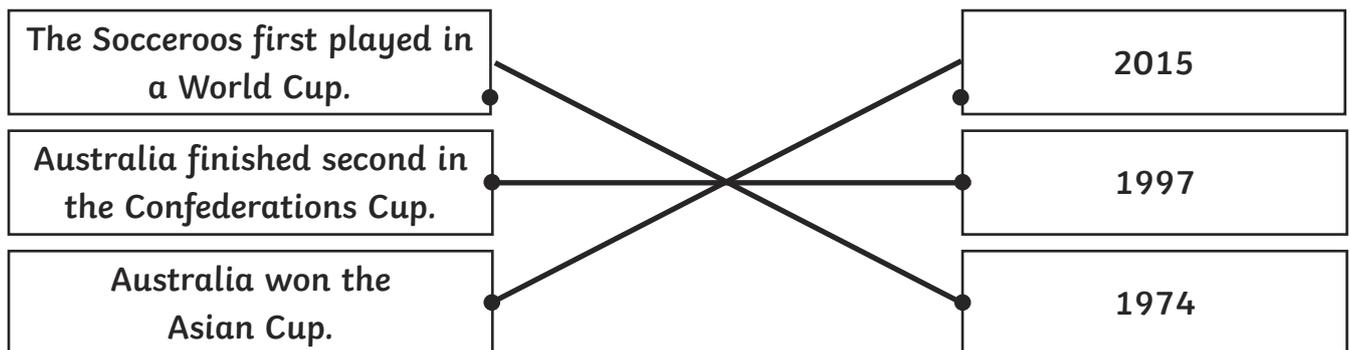
2. What year did Australia play its first international soccer match? Tick one.

- 1922**
- 1976
- 2006
- 2018

3. Which country did Australia defeat 31-0?

Australia defeated American Samoa 31-0

4. Match the event in the Socceroos history to the year it happened.



5. Fill in the missing words:

The other teams in Group C with Australia at The World Cup are **France, Peru** and **Denmark**.

6. In your opinion, what makes Tim Cahill a star player?

Answers will vary. Tim Cahill is a star player because he has played for Australia more than 100 times, and he has scored more than 50 goals.

7. Find and copy a word which means faraway.

Accept the word 'remote' only.

8. In your opinion, will the Socceroos be successful at the World Cup? Give at least one reason for your answer.

I think the Socceroos will be successful because they have excellent players, such as Tim Cahill, and they have been successful at recent football tournaments, such as the Asian Cup.

The Socceroos

The Australian men's national soccer team are called the 'Socceroos'. The nickname was first used in 1967 on a trip to South Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

The Australian men's national team first played against New Zealand in 1922. Australia played bravely but the New Zealanders were victorious by three goals to one. Since that day, a fierce rivalry has existed between the two teams.

More international matches followed but geographic isolation meant Australia struggled to play regularly. Throughout the following decades, however, Australia played games against New Zealand and South Africa as well as Canada and India. Slowly, the team grew stronger as did the popularity of the sport among Australian public.



Did You Know...?

The first Australian soccer uniform was sky blue and maroon. Soon after, the team changed to green and gold.

Australia's biggest win was against American Samoa in Coffs Harbour, 2011. The final score was 31-0, the highest ever in an international game.



Success

Australia has participated at The World Cup on five occasions. The first occasion was in 1974, where they drew one game and lost two. Many years passed until Australia once more qualified for the world-famous competition in 2006, 2010 and 2014. This year, Australia will play in The World Cup, which will be held in Russia. Overall, Australia has won two games, drawn three and lost eight times at The World Cup.

Beyond The World Cup, Australia has been successful in other competitions. Australia won the Asian Cup in 2015, defeating South Korea 2-1. In addition to this, the team was the OFC (Oceania Football Confederation) Nations Cup champions in 1980, 1996, 2000 and 2004 leaving to join the larger AFC (Asian Football Confederation). Australia finished second at the Confederations Cup in 1997, losing 6-0 to Brazil in the final. Australia can reflect on a successful history at football tournaments.



Star Player

Tim Cahill

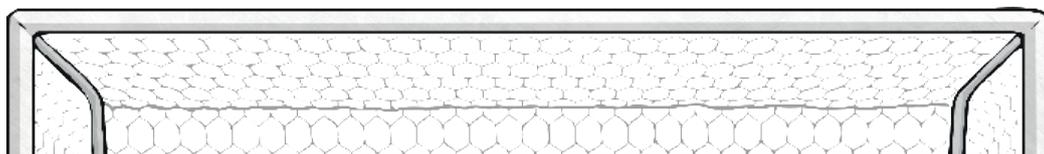
Tim Cahill was born in Sydney on 6th December 1979. His father is English and his mother is Samoan. He has represented Australia on more than 100 occasions. Many football experts considered him to be one of Australia's greatest players. He is a forward who has scored 50 goals for his country. Renowned for his boxing goal celebrations, this will most likely be his last World Cup.

Coach

The Socceroos head coach is Bert van Marwijk. Before coaching Australia, van Marwijk was the head coach for the national teams of Saudi Arabia and the Netherlands as well as several soccer clubs in Europe.

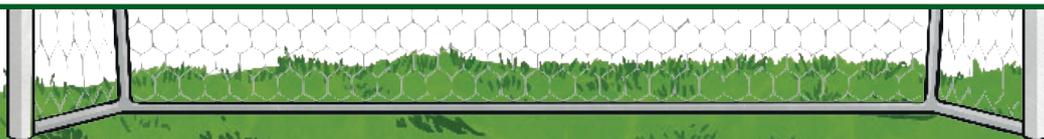
Team Captain

The captain of the Socceroos is Michael John Jedinak, who is known as Mile. Mile Jedinak was born and raised in Sydney. He plays as a midfielder for Aston Villa in the English Premier League. During his career, he has played for clubs in Australia, Turkey and the United Kingdom. He has captained the Socceroos more than 25 times and he has made more than 60 appearances for his country!



The Word Cup

The competition begins on 16th June and concludes on 15th July, when the two best teams will compete in the final. Australia is in Group C along with France, Peru and Denmark. If the Socceroos are successful at the group stage, they could play Germany, the current champions, and Brazil, the team who has won the trophy the most times, in the knockout rounds.



Questions

1. Which country defeated Australia in their first game? Tick one.

- Peru
- New Zealand
- Canada
- India

2. What year did Australia first qualify for the World Cup? Tick one.

- 1922
- 1974
- 2006
- 2018

3. Name a record that was broken when Australia played American Samoa in 2001.

4. Match the statement with the correct answer.

- The number of times Australia has qualified for The World Cup
- The number of times Australia has won the OFC Nations Cup
- The number of times Australia has won the Asian Cup

- once
- five times
- four times

5. Fill in the missing words from this sentence:

More _____ matches followed but _____ isolation meant Australia struggled to play _____.

6. In your opinion, what makes Tim Cahill a star player?

7. Find and copy a verb that means **ends** in the section called 'The World Cup'.

8. Do you think that hosting The World Cup will be a big task for Russia? Explain your answer.

9. In your opinion, will the Socceroos be successful at The World Cup? Give at least two reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. Which country defeated Australia in their first game? Tick one.

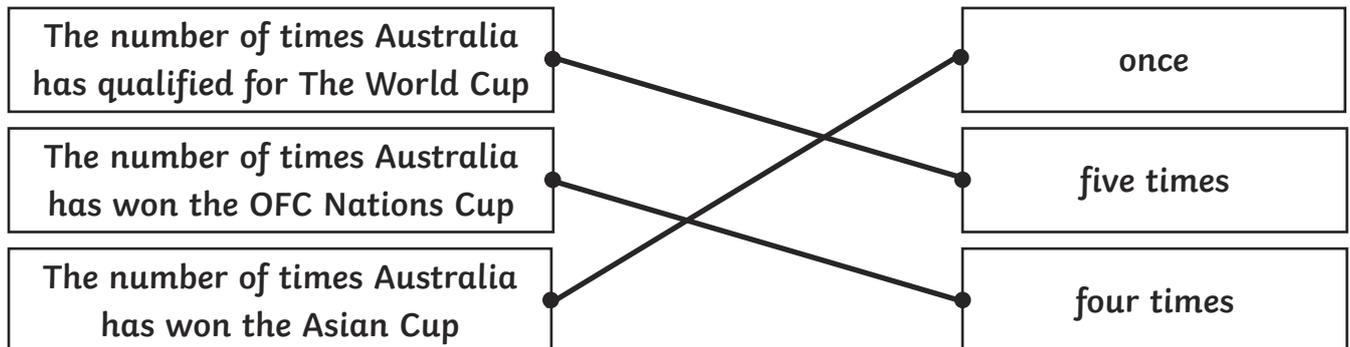
- Peru
- New Zealand
- Canada
- India

2. What year did Australia first qualify for the World Cup? Tick one.

- 1922
- 1974
- 2006
- 2018

3. Name a record that was broken when Australia played American Samoa in 2001.
Australia achieved the highest ever score in a soccer match when they defeated American Samoa 31-0.

4. Match the statement with the correct answer.



5. Fill in the missing words from this sentence:

More **international** matches followed but **geographic** isolation meant Australia struggled to play **regularly**.

6. In your opinion, what makes Tim Cahill a star player?

Answers will vary. Tim Cahill is a star player because he has played for Australia more than 100 times, and he has scored more than 50 goals.

7. Find and copy a verb that means **ends** in the section called 'The World Cup'.

Accept 'concludes' only.

8. Do you think that hosting The World Cup will be a big task for Russia? Explain your answer.

Yes, I think it will be a big task for Russia because the tournament last for a month and there are many teams travelling from around the world.

9. In your opinion, will the Socceroos be successful at The World Cup? Give at least two reasons for your answer.

I think the Socceroos will be successful because they have excellent players, such as Tim Cahill, and they have been successful at recent football tournaments, such as the Asian Cup.

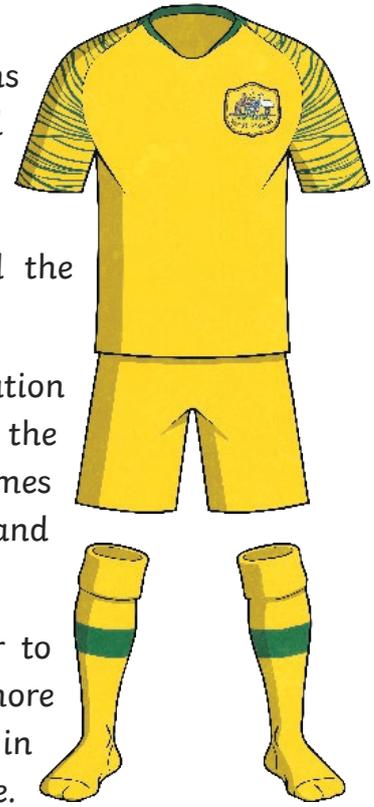
The Socceroos

The Australian men's national soccer team are referred to as the Socceroos. Though commonly used today, the nickname only came into existence in 1967 during a goodwill tour of South Vietnam.

Soccer has been played in Australia since the first Europeans arrived. However, it was not until 1922 that the national team played its first international game. The match was against New Zealand. Although Australia played with great courage and determination, New Zealand proved the better team on the day, winning by three goals to one.

More international matches followed but geographic isolation meant Australia struggled to play regularly. Throughout the following decades, however, Australia played several games against New Zealand and South Africa as well as Canada and India.

With greater migration following the Second World War to Australia from Europe, the game became more and more popular. In 1956, Australia hosted The Olympic Games in Melbourne and played on the world stage for the first time. It would not be long before Australia qualified for its first World Cup – the greatest soccer competition in the world.



Did You Know...?

The first Australian soccer uniform was sky blue and maroon band on the socks. Shortly afterwards, the team adopted the national colours of green and gold.

Success

Australia has qualified for The World Cup on five occasions. The first occasion was in 1974, where Australia lost two games and drew one. Many years passed until Australia would next qualify. Driven by an exciting new generation of players and coaches, Australia qualified in 2006, 2010 and 2014. During this time, they also achieved their first victory against Japan.



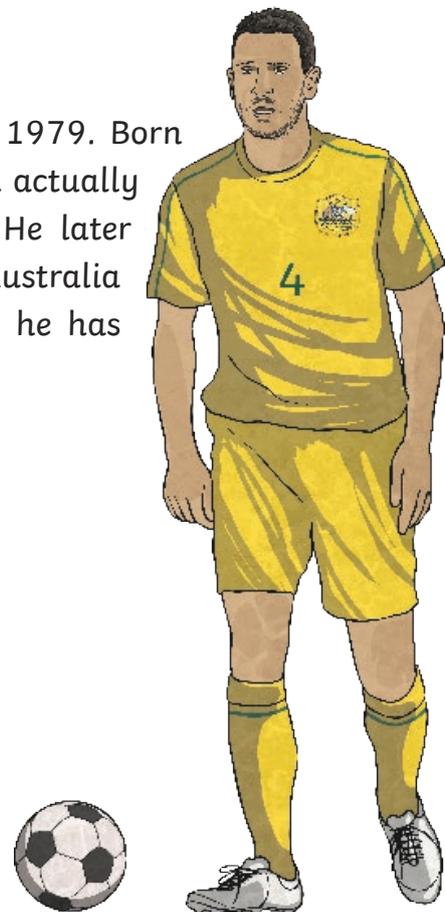
After a challenging qualification journey, Australia has qualified to play in The World Cup. At The World Cup to date, Australia has won two games, drawn three and lost eight times.

Beyond The World Cup, Australia has been successful in a number of other competitions. Australia were the Asian Cup champions in 2015. In the final, the team defeated South Korea 2-1 in front of an enthusiastic home crowd. Australia won the OFC (Oceania Football Confederation) Nations Cup in 1980, 1996, 2000 and 2004 before leaving to join the larger and more challenging AFC (Asian Football Confederation). Finally, Australia finished second at the Confederations Cup in 1997, losing 6-0 to Brazil in the final.

Australia's largest victory was against American Samoa in Coffs Harbour, 2001. The final score was 31-0, the highest ever in an international game. Archie Thompson also broke the record for the most goals scored in one game by an individual player. By the time the final whistle was blown, he had scored 13 times!

Star Player

Tim Cahill was born in Sydney on 6th December 1979. Born to an English father and a Samoan mother, Cahill actually played his first international game for Samoa. He later chose to play for Australia. He has represented Australia more than 100 times. A gifted attacking player, he has scored 50 goals for his country.



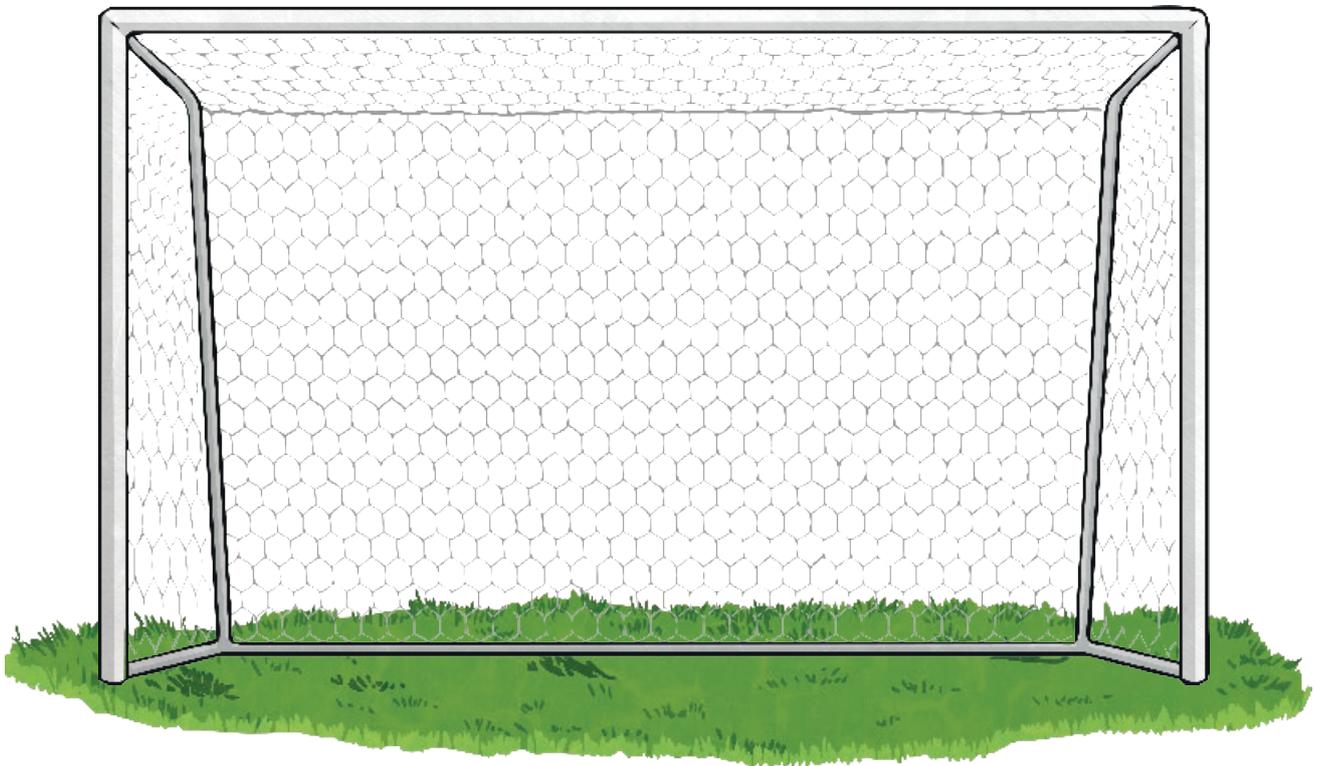
Coach

The Socceros coach is Bert van Marwijk. Originally from the Netherlands, van Marwijk became head coach of the Socceros in January 2018. Prior to this, he coached both the Dutch and Saudi Arabian national teams. Before becoming a soccer coach, he had a successful football career in the Netherlands, playing more than 450 club games. He even played for the Dutch national team in 1975.

The Word Cup

Russia will host The World Cup and the competition commences on 14th June. It culminates in the final, which takes place on 15th July, between the two best teams in the world.

Australia is in Group C along with France, Peru and Denmark. If the Socceros are successful at the group stage, they will proceed to the knockout stages, where the matches become even more challenging. They could potentially face Germany, the current champions, and Brazil, the team who have lifted the trophy the most times.



Questions

1. What was the result in Australia's first international game? Tick one.

- Australia 3 - 1 New Zealand
- New Zealand 3 - 1 Australia
- Australia 0 - 0 New Zealand
- Australia 1 - 1 New Zealand

2. What year did Australia play in its second World Cup tournament? Tick one.

- 1922
- 1976
- 2006
- 2004

3. What record did Archie Thompson break in 2001?

4. Match the statement with the correct answer.

Number of games Australia has won at The World Cup

Number of games Australia has won at The World Cup

Number of games Australia have drawn at The World Cup

5

3

2

5. Complete the missing words in the sentences.

The Australian men's _____ soccer team are referred to as the Socceroos. Though _____ used today, the nickname only came into existence in 1967 during a _____ tour of South Vietnam.

6. What makes Tim Cahill a star player? Use evidence from the text.

7. Find and copy a verb in 'The World Cup' section which means **to go forward**.

8. Which team has won The World Cup the most?

9. Why do you think Bert van Marwijk was appointed the head coach of the Socceroos?

10. How well do you think Australia will do at The World Cup? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.

Answers

1. What was the result in Australia's first international game? Tick one.

- Australia 3 - 1 New Zealand
- New Zealand 3 - 1 Australia
- Australia 0 - 0 New Zealand
- Australia 1 - 1 New Zealand

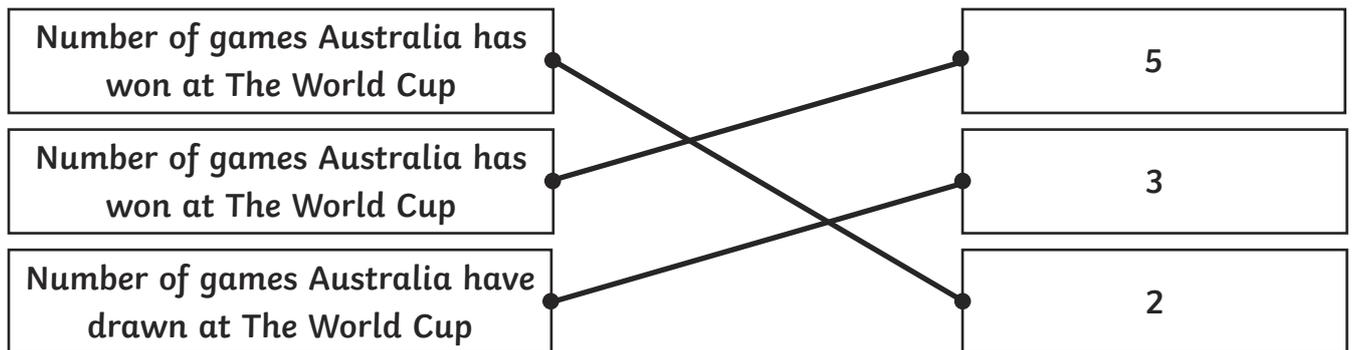
2. What year did Australia play in its second World Cup tournament? Tick one.

- 1922
- 1976
- 2006
- 2004

3. What record did Archie Thompson break in 2001?

Archie Thompson broke the record for the most goals scored by one player in a match.

4. Match the statement with the correct answer.



5. Complete the missing words in the sentences.

The Australian men's **national** soccer team are referred to as the Socceroos. Though **commonly** used today, the nickname only came into existence in 1967 during a **goodwill** tour of South Vietnam.

6. What makes Tim Cahill a star player? Use evidence from the text.

Tim Cahill is a star player because he has scored over 50 goals and he is a gifted attacking player.

7. Find and copy a verb in 'The World Cup' section which means **to go forward**.

Accept 'proceed' only.

8. Which team has won The World Cup the most?
Brazil have lifted the trophy the most times.
9. Why do you think Bert van Marwijk was appointed the head coach of the Socceroos?
Answers will vary: Bert van Marwijk was appointed the head coach of the Socceroos because he is an experienced coach, who has been the national coach of the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia.
10. How well do you think Australia will do at The World Cup? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.
Answers will vary: I think Australia will do well at The World Cup because they have had a lot of recent success as they won the Asia Cup in 2015.