



Getting the ball rolling in South Africa

Stadiums are emotionally charged even when they aren't connected to political and social liberation. But add those ingredients, and they become very powerful places, indeed. Danny Jordaan, CEO of the committee to organize the 2010 World Cup, wasn't even allowed to stand on the grounds of where the Nelson Mandela Stadium has been built. "This was classified as a white area", he says in Spotlight 6/2010. Under apartheid, he advocated a sporting boycott of South Africa and, since the end of that regime, he has worked tirelessly to bring the World Cup to the liberated country. Now, finally, the moment has arrived.

Never before has an African country been given the opportunity to host such a prestigious event in a sport that is loved by millions. How well the country pulls it off is of enormous significance for the entire continent. South Africa has invested heavily in its public transport, IT, telecommunications and hospitality infrastructure — a huge challenge for the economically divided country. One excellent initiative is the Ticket Fund, which provides free tickets to South Africans who can't afford them, including the 54,000 construction workers who helped build or refurbish the stadiums.

Those ten stadiums: Could you locate them all on a map? Study the FIFA World Cup site with its stadiums guide and excellent South Africa A-Z to brush up on The Rainbow Nation. Then test your knowledge in our South Africa quiz below. And have fun watching the matches in the coming weeks!

Anne Hodgson

Links:

- Stadiums guide: <http://www.fifa.com/worldcup/destination/stadiums/index.html>
- South Africa A-Z: <http://www.fifa.com/worldcup/destination/southafricafromatoz/index.html>
- This quiz online: <http://www.spotlight-online.de/language/vocabulary/getting-the-ball-rolling-in-south-africa>

1. Soccer City, where the first and final matches will be played, is in the largest city in South Africa, namely

- a) Cape Town
- b) Johannesburg
- c) Soweto

2. The stadium is built in the shape of

- a) a calabash, a traditional African pot.
- b) a diamond, as DeBeers has its headquarters nearby.
- c) a King Protea, South Africa's national flower.
- d) a football.

3. Durban Stadium has an arch representing South African Unity. It is named for Moses Mabhida,

- a) who won a Nobel Peace Prize for his promotion of sports.
- b) a revolutionary who developed the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.
- c) the most famous striker in Bafana Bafana, the South African National Football Team.
- d) a multimillionaire who sponsored the stadium.

4. Which stadium, originally built for rugby, was the location of South Africa's epic 1995 Rugby World Cup win over New Zealand?

- a) Ellis Park, Johannesburg
- b) Soccer City, Johannesburg
- c) Port Elizabeth Stadium, Nelson Mandela Bay/Port Elizabeth

5. Which of the following is NOT TRUE about South African football culture?

- a) Fans call out "Laduma!" when someone scores a goal.
- b) "Laduma" means "it thunders!" in IsiZulu.
- c) They also blow on vuvuzelas, their plastic stadium horns.
- d) Vuvuzelas are actually prohibited at national football matches.
- e) When fans are unhappy with a player and want him replaced, they signal by turning their hands in circles.

6. IsiZulu, Afrikaans, ... How many official languages does South Africa have?

- a) 4
- b) 7
- c) 11
- d) 19

7. The newly-built Green Point Stadium has a great view of Table Mountain. It's located in one of the most sought-after areas in

- a) Johannesburg
- b) Cape Town
- c) Nelson Mandela Bay/ Port Elisabeth

8. Which two oceans flow together not far from Green Point Stadium?

- a) Atlantic and Pacific
- b) Atlantic and Indian
- c) Atlantic and Southern
- d) Indian and Pacific

9. The spectacular new Mbombela Stadium, with its zebra-striped seats and 18 orange iron "giraffes", is

- a) located in a densely populated urban slum.
- b) close to Kruger National Park, yet separated from the locals by barbed wire.
- c) situated in The Western Cape Province, popular with tourists for its vineyards.

10. The Royal Bafokeng Nation in the North West Province, whose king grew up watching Liverpool play, is hosting the England team. The Bafokeng became wealthy enough to build their stadium by gaining rights to which mineral mined on their land?

- a) copper
- b) gold
- c) platinum
- d) titanium
- e) oil

Answers:

1-b, 2-a, 3-b, 4-a, 5-d, 6-c, 7-b, 8-b, 9-b, 10-c

1. The correct answer is: Johannesburg

Soccer City in Johannesburg was originally built in 1987 as FNB (First National Bank) Stadium, and was refurbished last year for €320 million.

Located in southwest Johannesburg, only a short distance from Soweto (which belongs to Johannesburg), it is where Nelson Mandela held his first mass rally (Kundgebung) after he was released (freilassen) after 27 years in prison, in 1990. Soweto was a stronghold (Hochburg) for the anti-apartheid movement (viz. (d.h.) the Soweto Uprising (Aufstand) 1976). People such as Nelson Mandela, Albert Luthuli and Desmond Tutu have all lived in Soweto, and three of the biggest Premier Soccer League (Profi-Fußball-Liga) teams started here.

2. The correct answer is: a calabash, a traditional African pot.

The word "calabash" (Kalebasse) refers to traditional African pots, and also to a type of squash (Flaschenkürbis) grown to be used as a drinking vessel (Trinkgefäß).

3. The correct answer is: a revolutionary who developed the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

Moses Mabhida was a highly respected leader of poor origins who became a dominant figure in the trade union (Gewerkschaft) movement, the African National Congress (ANC) and the Communist Party of South Africa. He died in 1986.

arch = Bogen

armed = bewaffnet

striker = Stürmer(in)

4. The correct answer is: Ellis Park, Johannesburg

This victory brought South Africans together in celebration. Ellis Park is was originally built for rugby, but will be one of the main venues (Veranstaltungsort) during the FiFa World Cup.

epic = monumental, heroisch

5. The correct answer is: Vuvuzelas are actually prohibited at national football matches.

Vuvuzelas have been controversial and can be distracting (ablenken) to players and coaches. They can also damage hearing.

However, they are an integral part of South African football culture and are therefore allowed.

score a goal = ein Tor schießen

6. The correct answer is: 11

The 11 languages are: * Afrikaans * English * IsiNdebele * IsiXhosa * IsiZulu * Sepedi * Sesotho * Setswana * SiSwati * Tshivenda * Xitsonga

IsiZulu is the language of South Africa's largest ethnic group, the Zulu people, and is spoken by a quarter of the population. Only 13 percent of the population speak Afrikaans.

45% of the population have a speaking knowledge of English. English was declared the official language of the Cape Colony in 1822 (replacing (ersetzen) Dutch). Today, English is the country's lingua franca (Verkehrssprache), and the primary language of government, business, and commerce. It is the language of instruction in most schools and colleges.

7. The correct answer is: Cape Town

The issue of refurbishing the old Athlone Stadium or building the elegant new Green Point Stadium in Cape Town was highly political. It came down to (darauf hinauslaufen) having a "better view", namely a camera backdrop (Kulisse) that included Table Mountain but excluded the low-cost council housing (sozialer Wohnungsbau) around the old stadium. Green Point Stadium will be one of the two semi-final venues for the FIFA World Cup.

sought-after = gefragt, beliebt

8. The correct answer is: Atlantic and Indian

Two ocean currents (Strömungen) also collide here: the cold Agulhas current from the west and the warmer Benguela current from the east.

9. The correct answer is: close to Kruger National Park, yet separated from the locals by barbed wire.

It is located (sich befinden) in an area of great natural beauty, but the people are poor. Corruption spoiled (verderben) the preparations for the World Cup, and there is no economic base for a football stadium at this location, as David Smith points out in his blog in The Guardian (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/blog/2010/jun/03/nelspruit-world-cup>).

densely = dicht

barbed wire = Stacheldraht

situated = sich befinden, stehen

vineyard = Weingut, Weinberg

10. The correct answer is: platinum

In 1999, the Bafokeng resolved (beilegen) a long dispute, winning a legal battle that now gives them rights to 22% of the platinum mined (abbauen) on their historical land. — Read Anna Kessel on the Bafokeng

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/blog/2010/jun/02/england-world-cup-bafokeng-sports-palace>), or explore the Bafokeng website (<http://www.bafokeng.com/>)