

Pelé



Pelé is widely regarded as the best football player of all time. His full name is Edson Arantes do Nascimento. He was born on 23 October 1940. He comes from Brazil and he grew up in a poor area of Sao Paulo. As a child he could not afford a football. He usually played football with an old newspaper or a grapefruit. At the age of 14, he joined a football team called Bauru in Sao Paulo. One year later Pelé joined a different team called Santos. It was clear that Pelé was a **special** player, and he soon started playing for the Brazil national football team.

Pelé won the world cup with Brazil when he was only 17 years old. He scored many goals and became the all-time **leading** scorer of Brazil. He is the only footballer to be a part of three World Cup-winning teams. In 1999, he was voted *Football Player of the Century* and the International Olympic Committee named Pelé the *Athlete of the Century*. In his career, Pelé scored 1281 goals in 1363 games. In Brazil, Pelé is **seen** as a hero. Everyone else knows him as *The King of Football*.



1. According to the article, when was Pelé born?
 - a) in October
 - b) in November
 - c) in December
 - d) in January

2. According to the article, what did Pelé do when he was 15 years old?
 - a) he joined the Brazilian football team
 - b) he joined a football team called Santos
 - c) he joined a football team called Bauru
 - d) he joined a football team called Sao Paulo

3. The word “special” in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:
 - a) great
 - b) normal
 - c) valuable
 - d) expensive

4. The word “leading” in paragraph 2 could best be replaced with:
 - a) first
 - b) second
 - c) number one
 - d) number two

5. According to the article, who named Pelé the *Athlete of the Century*?
 - a) other football players
 - b) people in Brazil
 - c) the Olympic committee
 - d) his World Cup-winning team

6. The word “seen” in paragraph 2 could best be replaced with:
 - a) watched
 - b) observed
 - c) noticed
 - d) considered

Answers: 1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (d)