



Three Wise Kangaroos

The dark side of the 2022 Football World Cup

Lead-in

1. Are you a big football fan?
2. Why do you think football is so popular worldwide?
3. Have you ever watched a big football event live? What event was it? Did you enjoy it?



Video

Watch the video and answer the questions.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ALeYFi_1hg

1. How much money did Qatar spend on preparing for the 2022 Football World Cup?
2. How much time did Qatar have to prepare the infrastructure for the tournament? What did it have to build in that time?
3. What costs contributed to the high price tag of the project?
4. Who carried out the labour that the project required?
5. What did the migrant workers have to do to secure a job in Qatar prior to their departure?
6. What is kafala?
7. What do we learn about Diplal and Laxman- the two construction workers who worked in Qatar?
8. What do we learn about the pay offered to construction workers and the conditions they lived in?
9. How many migrant workers died between 2010 and 2020?
10. What did Qatar do under pressure from human rights organisations?
11. Was any compensation granted to families who lost family members in Qatar?
12. How are players reacting to the reports of human rights abuse?
13. What is Qatar doing to polish its image?
14. What's the estimated revenue from the World Cup?
15. Complete the excerpt:
Qatar has about _____ regular hotel rooms, most of which have been booked for _____ officials. As alternatives, Qatar has leased two _____, called on home owners to rent out their rooms to visitors and coordinated _____ flights so visitors can stay in neighbouring countries. Tourists are also offered _____ in the desert.
16. What's the biggest concern for the LGBTQ fans who are thinking of going to Qatar to watch the games?



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Over to you

1. Which of the facts presented in the video did you find the most surprising?
2. Do you believe spending \$200 bln on organizing any sports event is ever justifiable? Wouldn't it make more sense to appoint five countries with the best infrastructure and facilities to be the hosts of the Football World Cup and rotate the games between them?
3. How should the families of the migrant workers who worked and died or suffered serious injuries in Qatar be compensated? Who should compensate them?
4. How can we ensure that future World Cups are not organized at the cost of human rights?
5. If you went to Qatar to watch the matches and no local hotels were available, would you rather stay in a tent in the desert, on a cruise ship or in a hotel in one of the neighbouring countries?
6. What do you think about David Beckham's role as an ambassador for Qatar?
7. Do you believe Qatar authorities can be trusted to deliver on their promise not to discriminate against any visitors, including the LGBTQ fans?
8. What do you think about the environmental cost of the project?
9. Do you believe players should have boycotted the event and refused to take part in it to make a statement about the human rights abuses? What about the fans?
10. Bearing in mind the huge human, financial and environmental cost of the undertaking, why do you think Qatar was even awarded the honour of organizing the 2022 Football World Cup?

Challenge

You are taking part in a debate about the conditions candidate countries should meet in order to take part in the bid to host a future World Cup.

Think about the following aspects and divide them into three categories: necessary, desirable, unimportant.

- no history of human rights abuses
- a law that guarantees equal rights for everyone and protects workers' rights
- moderate climate
- good infrastructure including roads and airports
- the existence of modern football stadiums capable of accommodating thousands of visitors
- plenty of accommodation options
- strong football tradition
- successes in previous World Cups



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Vocabulary

Match the halves to make useful verb + noun collocations.

to host	a bid
to win	tangible progress
to make	construction costs
to address	the cup
to triple	human rights issues

to elevate	forced labour
to pay	in a system called kafala
to be trapped	recruitment fees
to amount to	your family out of poverty
to have	your passport confiscated

to accommodate	without compensation
to set	all the spectators
to be left	a statement on the field
to make	your image
to polish	new guidelines around heat stress

Match the halves to make useful adjective + noun collocations.

record-breaking	heat
inevitable	nation
scorching	demand for tickets
oil-rich	illnesses
heart-related	decision

Now watch the video again and check your answers.

