

The 7 Steps -
February



1. CONTEXT



J.League

Mindmap anything you know about the topic, including vocabulary. Do some research online to help.

2. QUESTIONS

Read the listening questions to check your understanding. Look up any new vocabulary.

Listening Questions 1

1. When were Ronaldo and Neymar born?
_____.
2. How many goals did Ronaldo score in the Premier League with Manchester United?
_____.
3. What award did Ronaldo win in 2016?
_____.
4. How many goals did Neymar score for Brazil at the 2016 Summer Olympics?
_____.
5. What was Neymar's estimated value in 2017?
_____.

3. LISTEN

Listen and answer the questions using full sentences. Circle the number of times and % you understood.

Listening Questions 2

1. How many teams were there in the J1 division in 2019?
_____.
2. When was J2 launched?
_____.
3. When is Kazuyoshi Miura's birthday and how old did he turn in 2017?
_____.
4. Which J.League team did Zico play for?
_____.
5. How many championships had the Antlers won as of December 2016?
_____.

Listening 1				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

Listening 2				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

Discussion Questions

1. How is supporting soccer teams in Japan unique? Do you prefer to watch soccer leagues from overseas?
2. How do you feel about the amount of money that professional soccer players earn?

4. CHECK ANSWERS

Read through the transcript and underline the answers. Check them against your own answers.

5. CHECK VOCABULARY

Read the transcript and circle any new vocabulary you find. Look them up and add them to your list.

6. READ ALOUD

Read the transcript aloud at least 5 times, focusing on intonation and pronunciation.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

7. SHADOWING

Say the transcript aloud at the same time as the audio without reading it. Circle how many times below.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

TRANSCRIPT 1

Two famous footballers who share a birthday are Cristiano Ronaldo and Neymar. Ronaldo and Neymar were both born on February 5th, Ronaldo in 1985 and Neymar in 1992.

In 2009, Real Madrid **acquired** Ronaldo from Manchester United. In his six seasons with the Premier League team he scored 84 league goals and won 3 league championships. In January 2017, Ronaldo **beat out** Messi to win FIFA's Best Men's Player award for 2016 and in 2018 he signed a contract with Juventus.

2017 saw Neymar sign with Paris Saint-Germain. **Prior** to that he played for Barcelona in La Liga, Spain's top league, and before that he was a member of Santos FC in Brazil. At the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio, Neymar was part of the gold medal winning Brazilian team and scored 4 goals in the tournament.

According to a study released in January 2017, Neymar's **estimated** value was about 245 million Euros, putting him at the top of all players in Europe at the time. Ronaldo was seventh on the list at about 125 million Euros.

MATCH THE ANTONYMS BY DRAWING LINES BELOW:

Extension	Lose
Estimated	After
Beat out	Exact
Acquire	Compression
Prior	Sell

TRANSCRIPT 2

Japan's J.League includes three divisions: J1, J2 and J3. In 2019 a total of 18 teams competed in J1, the league's highest division, while J2 and J3 had 22 and 18 teams respectively. When the J.League was founded in 1993 it had 10 teams. J2 came along 6 years later and J3 started up in 2014.

In January 2017, Kazuyoshi Miura signed a 1-year **extension** with the J2 division club Yokohama FC. Miura, also known as 'King Kazu', celebrated his 50th birthday on February 26th, 2017. Miura played in 89 games for Japan and scored a total of 55 goals. Miura's career also includes stints in Brazil, Australia and Italy. Miura was the first ever Japanese to play in Italy's top league.

One of the most famous non-Japanese footballers to have played in the J.League is Zico. In addition to playing for the Kashima Antlers, Zico also coached Japan's national team.

In December 2016 the Kashima Antlers won their 8th league title. Kashima also lost 4-2 to Real Madrid in the Club World Cup final that was played in Yokohama. Ronaldo, who played for Real Madrid at the time, scored a hat-trick in his team's victory.