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03/29/2020

2009 words

Soccer Life

- **History and social impact**

Soccer is a beautiful sport with hundreds of millions of supporters. Soccer is the most watched sport in history due to having more than one thousand teams with supporters to every one of these teams. For many people, soccer is important because either they like playing soccer or watching it. Most fans support the team that plays in the city or country they were born in , and as many people love their city , imagine supporting a club in your city and watching them play every week. Soccer provides for many fans the opportunity to let themselves go emotionally. To be a true fan, you have to be a participant and by that, I don't mean that you have to go watch the team you support every week in their stadium, but to watch them and know everything about them. I support Paris Saint-Germain, a French soccer club. I started watching them 10 years ago and they were the first ever team that I saw so that's why I supported it but throughout these 10 years I have had my good and bad moments with this club and despite the many downs I've had, I will always be a true fan to my club .Soccer was founded in the 19th century by England. In every other country, it is called football but in the USA , they call it soccer which most non-american people living in the USA and are fans of the sport find so annoying. Soccer has infinite history which no one can cover in one essay or article but the most

important piece of history is that soccer unleashed to the world the most talented and workaholic players and many of them are well-known, for example, Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. Messi plays in Barcelona and has the most ballon d'ors which means best player in the world and he won many trophies with his soccer club. Messi is arguably the best Argentinian soccer player in the world as some may say the best was Maradona , retired soccer player. Cristiano Ronaldo is the most athletic soccer player in the world , he currently plays for Juventus in Italy and played for Real Madrid , Manchester United and Sporting. Many people say that he has the body of an American football player because he usually works out in the gym and cares for his fitness as much as he cares for enjoying playing soccer. He is the second most ballon d'or holder in the world after Messi. The soccer world is really lucky to have these amazing talented players and it will be one of the worst days in soccer history when they retire.

Right now, Liverpool , an English club, is by far the best team in the world again after having a downfall for nearly 20 years. They bought a manager, Jurgen Klopp, he wasn't well known, but due to his friendly way of treating the players if they are having a hard time and the effort he puts in the team to improve it, he is now the best manager in the world for having the ability to bring a team from the fifth rank to the first in their league. They are currently having a wonderful season, but unfortunately, due to the coronavirus , their league title isn't guaranteed as many leagues are being cancelled. The best nation in the world right now is France, they won the 2018 World Cup against Croatia. They have promising future stars that will conquer the soccer world after the retirement of Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, as they are still dominating all the rewards.

Currently, soccer fans are having their hardest time ever due to the coronavirus pandemic that stopped all of the soccer matches for nearly a month and another month will probably be without soccer. Being a true soccer fan , I understand what we have to go through right now, but it's for the greater image of having everybody safe of course. Most of the leagues and competitions are now cancelled or postponed to another date. A famous Italian defender, Paolo Maldini, recovered from the coronavirus, which resulted in millions of heart-breaks around the world as he is old and the odds were against him. This is how much soccer fans love the game and its players. This is an example of the social impact the coronavirus had on soccer fans. Right now, soccer players are advising people to stay at their home so soccer can come back as soon as possible.

- **Discourse Community**

There are many discourse communities related to soccer but the most obvious one is the soccer fans. They all have the same motive and the same goal. Despite every soccer fan supporting a different team than the other fan, they all support soccer at the end. There are various ways of connections that they can communicate through and give their opinion on any platform of social media.

A reason that makes so many people grow up loving soccer and its discourse community is that sometimes they enjoy the position the player they're watching plays in. For example, I grew up watching Ronaldinho, the most skillful player ever to play soccer, playing on the left, so I started playing soccer as a left winger. There are many positions on the soccer pitch. Goalkeeper, defenders, midfielders and forwards. Each position has its own discourse community, because as I said people don't just love the player, they love the position.

- **Rules and Message**

There are many rules in soccer like having just 22 player on the pitch , managers can't cross the line to enter the pitch , offside (hard to explain for people who haven't seen soccer but is understandable when you watch a video or a clip related to it), no fouls and if there are fouls then yellow or red cards are given to the player that committed the foul , no handballs ,there are 2 halves just 45 minutes each half , players can't touch the referee and many other rules.

I had many samples to choose from but I tried to choose the most obvious ones at least for me and they are rules , players' lives , fans , referees and soccer events . They all are part of the soccer world and without one of them , soccer isn't a playable sport anymore, every example I wrote must exist in order to enjoy soccer. These examples are different but each one of them has a meaning and a reason. For example, referees, in my point of view , are the second most important factor in the soccer world after the fans of course. They are the people who can make a decision that creates a difference in the match whether it is wrong or right , they have to run with the players to be near the ball for the full 90 minutes , they have to try their best in order to make the right decisions so that the match is fair and most importantly , they must digest all of the soccer fans' comments about them if they gave a wrong decision that let a team loses , they have to learn to take all the blame and continue to do their best.

An example I feel that is important to talk about in order to know more about soccer is soccer events. And by soccer events I don't mean matches. I mean the different competitions in soccer. First and most importantly, the World Cup. The World Cup is organized by Fifa (a non-profit organization that basically controls soccer). The World Cup is every four years and it is between 32 countries that face each other to the end. It is the most watched event in the history

of sports. Brazil is currently the most country with World Cup wins(5) then Germany and Argentina with 4 wins. The second most important competition is the Uefa Champions League. It is between all the teams in Europe and it is decided by the league in each country, for example, in England they take the top 4 teams to qualify for the Champions League and same to every league in Europe. It is played every year. Then all these teams face each other to win the competition. Real Madrid is the most team with Champions League wins (13) with a big gap between the second most and that is AC Milan, an Italian team with 7 Champions League wins. Cristiano Ronaldo is the most player with goals in this competition and the second most player who won this trophy(5).

- **Focused Analysis**

The author of this quote is David Beckham, one of the most famous English soccer players in the world and he isn't known as a soccer player only, he is also treated as a celebrity especially in England, "I don't have time for hobbies. At the end of the day, I treat my job as a hobby. It's something I love doing." The message from this quote is to take advantage of the things you love and enjoy doing to guarantee yourself a happy life. I am not talking about soccer only, but if you love your job , it's basically a hobby to you. For example , my brother loves computer science, so he works as a computer specialist in a hospital, but he doesn't consider computer science as his job as he loves doing it as a hobby, so he has another job. This quote is for all people not just soccer fans, if you're happy doing something, hold on to it and never let it go so you can enjoy it as much as you can. Soccer fans can relate so much to this quote, as most of them aren't actual soccer players, they have an actual job, but they consider soccer as their hobby to enjoy it in their free time or watch matches. It is one of my best quotes , because

growing up, I wanted to be a soccer player and I dedicated five years to training and working hard, but I realized that I don't have to be a soccer player, I can just enjoy playing and watching soccer with my friends or family, as well as having an actual job.

An important term in this quote is when he said, " I don't have time for hobbies." Which brings me to talk about soccer players' lives. In the soccer world, most people think soccer players do whatever they want whenever they want, but they don't have any idea how much effort a soccer player does to improve his abilities and create a good watching atmosphere for the spectators. The most important factor that helps them in their career is to maintain a good healthy life. Their fitness is so crucial so they can avoid injuries and be ready for a 90 minute game without getting tired. Also, if you are tired, this affects your communication on the field and you can't talk to your team. They also follow a particular diet and lifestyle. For example, what makes Cristiano Ronaldo so unique is that he eats six healthy meals everyday or one every three to four hours, he also doesn't sleep the normal eight hours like most soccer players, he takes five-ninety minutes naps a day. Also, an under-the-radar factor is mental strength which helps soccer players stay focused on the pitch and on training. All of these factors is to prove that they don't just go play their matches and go out for the rest of the week.

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