

Podcast 39 Worksheet

## Copa Libertadores

By Damian Fitzpatrick (May 3rd 2008)

### Pre-Listening (Background information)

This report focuses on the South American equivalent of the Champions League, the Copa Libertadores. Currently the competition is at the last 16 stage. Teams play two matches against each other (home and away) to decide which one will play in the next round.

### A. Listening – Main point

Listen to the first section (about Flamengo) and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Give a reason to support your answer.

1. T / F Flamengo won easily against America of Mexico last week.
2. T / F The Brazilian side Flamengo have about 14 million supporters in Brazil.
3. T / F The last time they won the Copa Libertadores was in 1991.
4. T / F Flamengo are a team from Rio de Janeiro.
5. T / F Zico lost his job as manager of Flamengo in 1991.
6. T / F Only teams from Brazil and Argentina have won the Copa Libertadores.

## B. Vocabulary

*Listen to the second section of the report and fill in the gaps with an appropriate word.*

The four other Brazilian clubs in the last 16 were (1) \_\_\_\_\_ happy after the first leg matches with Fluminense winning away at Colombia's Nacional, Santos (2) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Cucuta (also from Colombia), 2005 winners Sao Paulo (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 0-0 away at Uruguay's Nacional and Cruzeiro only going down 2-1 away at the current champions, Boca Juniors. Boca have (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the tournament in recent years with four victories since 2000 but despite the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of Palermo and Riquelme, they have struggled this season and will do well to make it to the final again. With Lanus losing at home to Mexican side Guadalajara and Estudiantes going down 2-0 away in Ecuador, Argentinian teams did not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ too well though they are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ one side in the last eight with the winner of the River Plate San Lorenzo match.

## C. Vocabulary

*Listen to the final section of the report and connect the ideas by writing out the full sentences.*

1. So / win / year / title

2. Maybe / surprise package / 2002 / when / Paraguay / Olimpia / won / title?

3. How / about / first-time / Mexico / winner?

4. I / have / feeling / Flamengo / can / go / way / year

## ANSWERS

### A. Listening – Main point

Listen to the first section (about Flamengo) and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Give a reason to support your answer.

1. I / F Flamengo won easily against America of Mexico last week.  
**They won 4-2 away**
2. T / F The Brazilian side Flamengo have about 14 million supporters in Brazil.  
**40 million**
3. T / F The last time they won the Copa Libertadores was in 1991.  
**1981**
4. I / F Flamengo are a team from Rio de Janeiro.  
**within Brazil, Rio de Janeiro's Flamengo has only**
5. T / F Zico lost his job as manager of Flamengo in 1991.  
**when Zico fired them to the 1981 title (player)**
6. T / F Only teams from Brazil and Argentina have won the Copa Libertadores.  
**the beauty of the Copa Libertadores is that any of the teams involved feel they have a real chance to win it.**

### B. Listening – main idea

Listen to the second section (Premier League) and explain why the following statements are false.

1. relatively
2. Surprise package
3. drawing
4. Dominated
5. inclusion
6. Fare
7. guaranteed

### C. Vocabulary

Listen to the final section of the report and connect the ideas by writing out the full sentences.

1. So / win / year / title

**So who will win this year's title?**

2. Maybe / surprise package / 2002 / when / Paraguay / Olimpia / won / title?

**Maybe a surprise package, as in 2002 when Paraguay's Olimpia won the title?**

3. How / about / first-time / Mexico / winner?

**how about a first-time Mexican winner?**

4. I / have / feeling / Flamengo / can / go / way / year

**I have a feeling that Flamengo can go all the way this year**

### Transcript

That was Marcino scoring in Flamengo's comfortable 4-2 away victory against Mexican side America in the first leg of the last 16 of the South American club championship, the Copa Libertadores. Despite being one of the biggest clubs on the continent, with a reputed 40 million supporters within Brazil, Rio de Janeiro's Flamengo has only ever won the Copa Libertadores once before, when Zico fired them to the 1981 title. This lack of success for Brazil's top team may seem rather strange but unlike the European Champions League which has become an almost closed affair between the top clubs from Spain, Italy and England, the beauty of the Copa Libertadores is that any of the teams involved feel they have a real chance to win it.

The four other Brazilian clubs in the last 16 were relatively happy after the first leg matches with Fluminense winning away at Colombia's Nacional, Santos beating surprise package Cucuta (also from Colombia), 2005 winners Sao Paulo drawing 0-0 away at Uruguay's Nacional and Cruzeiro only going down 2-1 away at the current champions, Boca Juniors. Boca have dominated the tournament in recent years with four victories since 2000 but despite the inclusion of Palermo and Riquelme, they have struggled this season and will do well to make it to the final again. With Lanus losing at home to Mexican side Guadalajara and Estudiantes going down 2-0 away in Ecuador, Argentinian teams did not fare too well though they are guaranteed one side in the last eight with the winner of the River Plate San Lorenzo match.

So who will win this year's title? Brazilian teams will feature and Sao Paulo are many people's favourites again. Or will another Argentinian side take over the mantle from Boca, perhaps San Lorenzo in their centenary year? Maybe a surprise package, as in 2002 when Paraguay's Olimpia won the title? Perhaps this year it is the turn of Liga de Quito from Ecuador, which would re-ignite the debate on playing at altitude, or how about a first-time Mexican winner?

No, I am not going to go for any of those but rather I have a feeling that Flamengo can go all the way this year and emulate the golden team of '81.