

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# David Beckham



David Robert Joseph Beckham OBE \_\_\_\_\_ (be) born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1975 in Leytonstone, England. As a student in Essex, Beckham's football talent \_\_\_\_\_ (be) evident at an early age, he \_\_\_\_\_ (win) the Bobby Charlton Soccer Skills Award at the age of 11.

Beckham's career \_\_\_\_\_ (begin) when he \_\_\_\_\_ (sign) a professional contract with Manchester United on July 8th, 1991. He \_\_\_\_\_ (play) for the first-team for the first time in 1992, at the age of 17. While he \_\_\_\_\_ (train) for Manchester United he \_\_\_\_\_ (win) the 1992 F.A. Youth Cup and he \_\_\_\_\_ (become) a professional player in January 1993. While he \_\_\_\_\_ (play) with Manchester United he \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a key role in their dominance of the FA Premier League, which \_\_\_\_\_ (lead) to Manchester United winning the treble of the League, FA Cup, and UEFA Champions League in 1996.

In 1996 Beckham \_\_\_\_\_ (make) his international debut in a game against Moldova. Beckham \_\_\_\_\_ (be) the only Englishman to score in three different World Cups, he \_\_\_\_\_ (be) also only the fifth player in World Cup history to score twice from direct free kicks. He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) captain of the English national team from 15 November 2000 to 2 July 2006.

In June 2003 he \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) Manchester United to join Real Madrid. Real Madrid

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\_\_\_\_\_ (pay) a transfer fee of \$41 million for Beckham, who \_\_\_\_\_ (join) a team full of star footballers like Zinedine Zidane, Luis Figo and Ronaldo.

In 2005 Beckham opened The David Beckham Academy in the UK and in Los Angeles. The Academy is a soccer school for boys and girls aged 8 to 15 and offers a variety of training programmes.

In 2006, after England's quarter-final exit at the World Cup in Germany, he \_\_\_\_\_ (resign) as the Captain of England. Steven McClaren, the England coach, also \_\_\_\_\_ (drop) him from the England national team on the 11th August 2006.

At the end of the 2006-07 Spanish season, David \_\_\_\_\_ (find) it difficult to negotiate a new contract with Real Madrid, instead he \_\_\_\_\_ (negotiate) a new five year contract, worth \$250 million, with a major American League Soccer team L.A. Galaxy. In January 2007 it \_\_\_\_\_ (be) announced that Beckham would leave Real Madrid.

However, in February 2007 there \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a sudden improvement in his football performance and Steve McClaren \_\_\_\_\_ (recall) him to the England team. There \_\_\_\_\_ (be) also last minute attempts made by Real Madrid to keep Beckham in Spain. However, the contract \_\_\_\_\_ (be) completed and, at the moment, Beckham \_\_\_\_\_ (play) soccer in America.

David Beckham also \_\_\_\_\_ (profit) from a multitude of million-dollar contracts and a line of cologne for men, 'David Beckham: Instinct'. He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) one of the most famous players in the world, and \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a celebrity even outside the football world. The famous Brazilian footballer Pelé \_\_\_\_\_ (name) him as one of the world's top 100 footballers.

Source: The official David Beckham website: <http://www.davidbeckham.com/news.php>