

MOVIE ANALYSIS 5A

Name: _____ Class: _____ Batch: _____ Roll No: _____

In this document we review the movie **Pele: Birth of a Legend** and highlight five motivational aspects we could learn from the movie.

The movie was screened for the students of TEIT on Thursday, 18th of July, as part of a movie analysis activity in the subject Business Communication and Ethics by Professor Joseph Rodrigues.

The movie is the biography of Brazilian football legend Pele and the story leading to his history making 1958 World Cup winning campaign.

Analysis:

1. Staying true to your roots. The first match featured in the movie Pele and his friends are mocked and ridiculed by the more upper class public for their lack of football boots despite them winning the match in remarkable fashion. This prompts Pele to get proper boots for his next match only to find that it hindered with his game. On realizing this, Pele discards the boots and continues the game barefooted having regained his exquisite skill and control over the ball. Later in the movie, Pele once again demonstrates this quality when he rejects the renowned European style of play in favour for his street-learned traditional *Ginga* style.
2. Being proud of who you are. Other than Pele's belief in *Ginga*, which was the core of the movie, Pele displayed his pride in his identity by embracing the nickname meant to deride him. Edson Nascimento, called Dico by his family, was given the nickname 'Pele' by detractors due to his mispronunciation of the name of Brazil goalkeeper Bile. While originally embarrassed by this, Dico embraces the name as a representation of his Brazilian identity and turns it into an iconic name that would go down in footballing history.
3. Self-Confidence. Despite constantly being told by coaches and other players that what he was doing was wrong Pele knew that he was on the path to greatness. Pele displayed the remarkable ability of believing in himself when everyone around him doubted him. At the lowest point in his life, following the death of his friend for which he blamed himself, Pele eventually picked himself up and carried on doing what he was best at, playing football.
4. Never give up attitude. Pele's persistence is revealed early in the movie when we see him playing football in the *favela* despite his mother banning the game in the household due to an incident involving his father. He rose against all odds, humiliating older, richer kids on the pitch like it meant nothing, and then going on to being a *pro* at only 16 years of age. He displayed tremendous determination when he worked his way to being a top player for Sao Paulo FC and the Brazil national team, competing for a spot against older and more experienced players. Pele, like every other success story wasn't an overnight phenomenon. He worked hard, overcoming failures, losses and injuries, practicing, improving consistently under the guidance of his father '*Dondinho*' and his mentor, scout 'de Brito' to achieve the exquisite skill and technique he is today celebrated for.
5. Team Spirit and Leadership. On the day before the final of the 1958 World Cup, Pele, as advised by his father, decides to bring out the best in his teammates. He does so by inviting them to play a game of *no bounce* all the way from the hotel diner to a nearby lighthouse. Making their way through the diner and the rest of the hotel helped them realize their love for *Ginga* and the unique ability and skills it provided them. This team exercise implemented by Pele displays his leadership skills and his understanding of the importance of team spirit in the sport despite him being capable of winning games single-handedly. It also helps the Brazilian coach understand that his team were meant to play the game the way they knew best and that led to Brazil earning a thumping victory over host and favorites Sweden.