

## Lessons from Messi

**文章导读：**日前，阿根廷发起了一项民意调查，你会投票支持梅西担任阿根廷总统吗？该调查涉及 2500 名用户，而且是在阿根廷队世界杯夺冠后的两天内进行的。所以，有 44% 的受访者对梅西当总统的假设回答了“是”。另外还有大约 38% 的人回答“否”，17.5% 的人回答“也许”。从这个民意调查中，阿根廷群众还是支持梅西未来当总统。



### 【1】Argentina's politicians should learn from its footballers

阿根廷的政治家应该向足球运动员学习

【2】They began in Qatar by losing to Saudi Arabia, one of the **least-fancied**<sup>1</sup> teams in the tournament. Argentina's footballers ended it as World Cup champions, beating France, the holders, in a penalty shoot-out after a thrilling 3-3 draw. La selección, as the national team is known, took home Argentina's third cup, and the first in 36 years.

他们首先在卡塔尔输给了沙特队，沙特队是本届锦标赛中最不受欢迎的球队之一。阿根廷足球运动员以世界杯冠军的身份结束了这场比赛，在一场惊心动魄的 3 比 3 平局后，在点球大战中击败了卫冕冠军法国队。国家队的拉塞莱奇翁（La selección）捧起了阿根廷的第三届杯赛，也是 36 年来的第一届。

【3】Argentina expected, and in the end got a **ferocious**<sup>2</sup> match. When France won the World Cup in 2018, its team was younger and its players more expensive than almost any other. But Argentina saw them off this time—eventually, having led 2-0 and then 3-2. Kylian Mbappé hauled France back into the game with a penalty and a goal in normal play and then another spot kick in extra time, becoming only the second man to score three times in a World Cup final. But the glory will belong to Lionel Messi, Argentina's 35-year-old captain.

阿根廷队预料到了，但最终还是进行了一场激烈的比赛。当法国在 2018 年赢得世界杯时，它的球队比其他任何球队都年轻，球员也比其他球队都贵。但阿根廷最终以 2 比 0 领先，随后又以 3 比 2 领先。基利安·姆巴佩（Kylian Mbappé）在正常比赛中以点球和进球拖入法兰切巴克（Franceback），然后在加时赛中又踢了一个点球，成为世界杯决赛中第二个三次进球的人。但荣耀将属于阿根廷 35 岁的队长莱昂内尔·梅西。

表达激烈的比赛

<sup>1</sup> **least-fancied** 最不受欢迎

<sup>2</sup> **Ferocious** / fe'roufəs/ adj.凶猛的；残暴的；猛烈的

(1) 表达激烈的比赛本文用了 **ferocious match**, ferocious 的英文释义为: **A ferocious animal, person, or action is very fierce and violent.**即表达凶猛的; 残暴的; 猛烈的意思, 如:

Tigers are among the ferocious animals.

老虎是凶猛的动物之一。

(2) **intense; sharp; fierce** 也可以用来表述激烈的比赛, 如

Intense /sharp/fierce competition is also forcing them to accelerate development cycles.

激烈的竞争也迫使汽车制造商们缩短研发周期。

(3) **a closely fought game; a gruelling match**;同样也可以表达激烈的冲突, 其中 gruelling /'gru: əln/的英文释义为: **A gruelling activity is extremely difficult and tiring to do.**即表达累人的; 折磨人的; 使人筋疲力尽的意思, 如:

Karlovic broke his previous ATP record, but still lost in a gruelling five-set match to Stepanek

卡罗维奇打破了他之前的 ATP 纪录, 但在一场艰苦的五盘比赛中输给了斯捷潘内克

【4】Argentina's fans had already made this World Cup about Mr Messi. Around 50,000 Argentine supporters **descended on**<sup>3</sup> Doha for the final, compared with under 10,000 from France, a far richer and more populous country. The final settled any debate, Argentines crow, about who the greatest living footballer is. Yet Mr Messi has had a **chequered**<sup>4</sup> relationship with his country, which he left at 13 to train in Europe.

阿根廷球迷已经在本届世界杯上谈论了梅西先生。大约 5 万名阿根廷支持者聚集在多哈参加决赛, 而法国则只有不到 1 万人, 法国是一个更富裕、人口更多的国家。阿根廷人说, 决赛解决了关于谁是当今最伟大的足球运动员的任何争论。然而, 梅西先生与他的国家的关系一直不稳定, 他在 13 岁时离开了这个国家, 前往欧洲训练。

【5】Compared with Diego Maradona, an Argentine megastar of an earlier generation, Mr Messi was long deemed too **timid**<sup>5</sup>. Maradona, who died in 2020, was overheard in 2016 saying that Mr Messi didn't "have enough personality to be a leader". Argentines **resented**<sup>6</sup> the fact that he won often with Barcelona, his club in Spain for most of his career (he now plays for Paris Saint-Germain), but not with the national squad. That changed in 2021, when Argentina won the Copa América, Latin America's biggest competition, for the first time in 28 years. Messi-mania has now gripped the country.

与上一代阿根廷巨星迭戈·马拉多纳相比, 梅西一直被认为过于胆小。马拉多纳于 2020 年去世, 2016 年有人无意中听到他说梅西“没有足够的人格魅力来成为一名领袖”。阿根廷人不满的是, 他在职业生涯的大部分时间里都是在巴塞罗那(他现在效力于巴黎圣日耳曼队)赢得比赛, 而不是在国家队。2021, 阿根廷 28 年来首次赢得美洲杯, 这是拉丁美洲最大的竞争对手。梅西狂热现在已经席卷了整个国家。

<sup>3</sup> Descend on 聚集

<sup>4</sup> Chequered /'tʃekəd/ adj.成功与失败并存的(过去或历史、事业); 有不同颜色方格图案的

<sup>5</sup> Timid /'tɪmɪd/ adj.胆小的; 胆怯的; 羞怯的; 缺乏勇气的

<sup>6</sup> resented /rɪ'zentɪd/ v.愤恨; 感到气愤; 愤愤不平

【6】 In Argentina, the beautiful game is more than a sport. “When they ask you who you are, you answer: I am a son, I am a father and I belong to such and such team,” says Ariel Scher, a journalist. If football is a religion in Argentina, then a World Cup victory is its spiritual **apotheosis**<sup>7</sup>—and this one comes at a time of national **agony**<sup>8</sup>. Argentina has been battered in 2022 by record droughts, inflation reaching 100% and **fractious**<sup>9</sup> politics. On December 6th Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, the current vice-president, was sentenced to six years in jail over a corruption scandal.

在阿根廷，美丽的比赛不仅仅是一项运动。记者 Ariel Scher 说：“当他们问你是谁时，你会回答：我是一个儿子，我是一名父亲，我属于某个团队。”。如果足球在阿根廷是一种宗教，那么世界杯的胜利就是它的精神典范，而这场胜利是在举国痛苦的时刻到来的。2022 年，阿根廷遭受创纪录的干旱、通货膨胀率达到 100% 以及政治动荡的打击。12 月 6 日，现任副总统克里斯蒂娜·费尔南德斯·德基什内尔因腐败丑闻被判处六年监禁。

【7】 Against this chaotic backdrop, the national team has spread joy. Indeed Argentina’s political class could learn from its sportsmen. The team is more **close-knit**<sup>10</sup> than in previous World Cups, says Klaus Gallo, a historian. The country’s divided government, in which the moderate president and Ms Fernández go for months without speaking, could take note. And much as some Argentines used to deride Mr Messi, Argentine politicians have a habit of undermining their best assets. Ms Fernández and other leftists vilify Argentina’s agribusiness and the private sector, though these are the motors of the economy. Argentina’s politicians could learn from the country’s belated embrace of Mr Messi—if you’ve got it, appreciate it.

在这种混乱的背景下，国家队传播了欢乐。事实上，阿根廷的政治阶层可以向运动员学习。历史学家克劳斯·加洛（Klaus Gallo）表示，这支球队比前几届世界杯更加紧密。该国分裂的政府可能会注意到这一点，温和的总统和费尔南德斯女士在政府中几个月都没有发言。正如一些阿根廷人过去嘲笑梅西先生一样，阿根廷政客有一种破坏他们最好资产的习惯。费尔南德斯女士和其他左翼人士诋毁阿根廷的农业企业和私营部门，尽管它们是经济的驱动力。阿根廷的政治家们可以从该国迟来拥抱梅西的做法中学习，如果你已经了解了，请欣赏。

【8】 The final lesson comes from Mr Messi and la selección’s manager, Lionel Scaloni. Over the past five World Cups the country’s team has done better under humble managers, says Andrés Malamud, an Argentine political scientist at the University of Lisbon. “And they fared badly with managers who were showmen and **braggarts**<sup>11</sup>.” The **prudence**<sup>12</sup> and professionalism of Mr Scaloni and his star player offer a sobering contrast to the amateurism with which Argentina’s economy is managed. Argentina’s political leaders talk a good game, but fail to deliver results. Unlike the quietly spoken, ruthlessly goal-focused Mr Messi.

最后一个教训来自梅西先生和拉塞莱奇翁的经理莱昂内尔·斯卡洛尼。里斯本大学（University of Lisbon）的阿根廷政治学家安德烈斯·马拉穆德（Andrés Malamud）表示，在过去五届世界杯期间，阿根廷队在谦逊的管理下表现得更好。“他们在那些善于表演和吹牛的经理身上表现得很糟糕。”斯卡洛尼先生和他的明星球员的谨慎和专业精神与阿根廷经济管理中的业余精神形成了鲜

<sup>7</sup> **Apotheosis** /əˈpɑː θiˈoʊsɪs/ 羽化登仙；神化

<sup>8</sup> **Agony** /ˈæɡəni/ 痛苦的；痛苦；苦恼；极度痛苦

<sup>9</sup> **Fractious** /ˈfrækfəs/ adj. 暴躁的；易怒的；动辄烦躁的；捣乱的；表示不满的

<sup>10</sup> **close-knit** 紧密结合的

<sup>11</sup> **braggart** /ˈbrægərt/ 吹牛者；吹牛大王；自吹自擂者

<sup>12</sup> **prudence** /ˈpruːdnəs/ n. 谨慎；慎重；精明

明的对比。阿根廷的政治领导人说这场比赛很好，但没有取得结果。不同于安静地说话、无情地专注于目标的梅西先生。