

When it was announced back in December 2010 that the tiny nation of Qatar was set to host⁵ arguably⁶ the largest sporting event on the planet, many were up in arms⁷. It was an unconventional choice, no doubt about it⁸ and the controversy surrounding⁹ it was massive.

But 12 years down the line¹⁰, it seemed that all eyes were glued to the screen¹¹ waiting to see what surprises, delights¹² and mishaps¹³ the World Cup¹⁴ would throw up¹⁵. And weren't we treated¹⁶ to a fair share¹⁷? Regardless of¹⁸ opinion, the spectacle itself was an absolute belter¹⁹ and helped to ensure²⁰ that Qatar held the world's focus²¹ for the best part of a month.

As expected²², Qatar were out after three games in the group stage²³, having lost

all their matches. But the location of the tournament itself has arguably helped introduce²⁴ a whole new generation of fans to the game, as well as boost²⁵ the profile of the sport in nations where it was once largely ignored as a major game.

⁵ to host sth tu hæst 'sɑ:mθɪŋ gościć coś

⁶ arguably 'ɑ:gjuəbli prawdopodobnie

⁷ to be up in arms tu bi ʌp ɪn ɑ:mz być oburzonym

⁸ no doubt about it nəʊ daʊt ə'baut ɪt bez wątpienia

⁹ surrounding sə'raʊndɪŋ otaczający

¹⁰ down the line daʊn ðə laɪn po jakimś czasie

¹¹ all eyes were glued to the screen ɔ:l aɪz wə(r) glʊd tə ðə skrin wszystkie oczy były wpatrzone w ekran

¹² delight drɪ'laɪt tu: przyjemność

¹³ mishap 'mɪʃəp nieszczęście

¹⁴ The World Cup ðə 'wɜ:ld 'kʌp Puchar Świata, Mistrzostwa Świata w Piłce Nożnej

¹⁵ to throw sth up tu θrəʊ 'sɑ:mθɪŋ ʌp tu: zaprezentować coś

¹⁶ to treat sth tu tri:t 'sɑ:mθɪŋ tu: zafundować coś

¹⁷ fair share feə(r) 'ʃeə(r) porządna porcja

¹⁸ regardless of sth rɪ'gɑ:dləs əv 'sɑ:mθɪŋ niezależnie od czegoś

¹⁹ belter 'belte(r) cudo, zjawisko

²⁰ to ensure sth tə ɪnʃʊə(r) 'sɑ:mθɪŋ zapewnić coś

²¹ focus 'fəʊkəs uwaga

²² as expected əz ɪk'spektɪd zgodnie z oczekiwaniami

²³ group stage grʊ:p steɪdʒ faza grupowa

²⁴ to introduce sth tə ɪn'trə'dju:s 'sɑ:mθɪŋ wprowadzić coś

²⁵ to boost sth tu bu:st 'sɑ:mθɪŋ wzmocnić coś

