

World's Best Soccer Player Lionel Messi Will Go to Miami

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Famous soccer player Lionel Messi, who played for Paris St-Germain in France, will be joining the American team, Inter Miami. Messi had another offer from Al-Hilal in Saudi Arabia which would have paid him more, but he chose Miami instead. The deal includes partnerships with big companies like Adidas and Apple.

Messi, who is 35 years old, has been named the world's best soccer player seven times. He's also predicted to win the award again after a successful World Cup.

Before this, Messi has only played in Europe. He had the choice between staying in Europe, going to Miami, or moving to Saudi Arabia. The big deciding factors for him were the lifestyle in Miami and the chance to work with big companies outside of soccer.

He already has a house in Miami, which he had been renting out. Messi wanted to go back to his old team, Barcelona, this summer, but it was impossible because of new financial rules in the Spanish league.

His time in France was good but not great. He scored 32 goals in 75 games for Paris St-Germain. However, they didn't do well in the Champions League, a big European tournament.

Messi's contract with Paris St-Germain is ending this summer and he decided not to stay. One problem was that he took a trip to Saudi Arabia without permission, which got him suspended for two weeks.

Messi is best known for playing for Barcelona and for winning the World Cup with his home country, Argentina. He had to leave Barcelona in 2021, after being there for 21 years, because the club was having money problems. While he was there, he scored a record 672 goals and helped them win lots of championships.

Comprehension Questions:

1. Why did Messi decide to join Inter Miami?

- a) He was offered a higher salary there
- b) He already owns a house in Miami
- c) He wanted to stay in Europe
- d) The lifestyle and deals with big companies

2. Who was living in Messi's house in Miami?

- a) Messi
- b) People who rent it from him
- c) The entire Barcelona team
- d) Nobody

3. Which of these statements is NOT true?

- a) Messi is joining Inter Miami
- b) Messi used to play for Paris St-Germain
- c) Messi has decided to retire from soccer
- d) Messi is known for his time at Barcelona



4. How might Messi affect Inter Miami's performance?
- a) It would likely improve with a high-profile player joining
 - b) It would likely get worse because Messi is retiring
 - c) It would stay the same as Messi is not a good player
 - d) There would be no impact as Messi is a coach
5. Why couldn't Messi return to Barcelona?
- a) Because he wasn't good enough
 - b) Because of new financial rules in the Spanish league
 - c) Because Barcelona didn't want him back
 - d) Because he is allergic to seafood
6. What might be one of the reasons Messi didn't perform so well in France?
- a) He didn't like the French culture
 - b) He was too old to play soccer
 - c) He was suspended for two weeks for an unauthorized trip
 - d) He ate too much cheese
7. What does Messi's record of 672 goals with Barcelona indicate?
- a) He was an average player
 - b) He was a fantastic player
 - c) He was a terrible player
 - d) He was a good coach
8. What was a good reason for Messi to move to Saudi Arabia?
- a) Because he had a house there
 - b) Because he would have earned more money
 - c) Because he speaks Arabic
 - d) Because he is originally from Saudi Arabia
9. Why might Messi's move to Inter Miami be considered a big deal in the world of soccer?
- a) Because he is a young, upcoming player
 - b) Because he is not a well-known player
 - c) Because he is retiring from soccer
 - d) Because he is a globally recognized and highly successful player
10. What is the main idea of the article?
- a) Messi is retiring from soccer
 - b) Messi won the World Cup seven times
 - c) Messi was suspended for a month in France
 - d) Messi is leaving Paris St-Germain to join Inter Miami

Speaking and Writing Activities:

- Discuss these questions with a partner or a small group.
- Choose one topic and write a response to it. Show your writing to a classmate or teacher.

1. Where would you rather live: Paris, Miami, or Saudi Arabia? Explain your reasons.
2. Have you ever played soccer? Who are your favorite players and teams?
3. Lionel Messi has made over 500 million dollars. Does he deserve this much money? If you had this much money, what would you do with it?

