

England footballers crash out 欧锦赛英格兰被淘汰

Vocabulary: defeat and loss 有关失败的词语

Oh no, not again! England's football team have crashed out of the Euro 2012 football tournament after losing another penalty shootout.

The 'Three Lions', as England are known, were almost **pped** at the **post** by a strong Italian team who came close to scoring before the final whistle. But the match **hung** in the balance at nil-nil after extra time.



England fans – frustrated at failing on penalties in six previous tournaments – were hopeful this would be their winning night.

The psychological pressure on the players was massive. After two successful penalties, the omens looked good. However, England players Ashley Young and Ashley Cole misplaced their spot-kicks and fans were left with their hearts in their mouths.

The skilful Italians soon thwarted any hope of English victory. The Italian striker Alessandro Diamanti put the final nail in the coffin by coolly slotting in the winner past England goalkeeper Joe Hart.

As Italian fans and players celebrated, English dreams were left shattered and deflated. England captain, Steven Gerrard, said his players were heartbroken at their departure from the tournament. The agonising jinx of losing a match on penalties continues to haunt the England team.

The players must now return home with their tails between their legs. But there is some consolation: the young team only lost by a narrow margin and the setback will last just two years before England mount their next challenge at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

But if faced with another penalty shootout, can England finally overcome the odds and triumph?

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. By what other name is the England football team known?
2. What phrase describes when a result is not known and remains in suspense?
3. What word in the article means zero?
4. What verb means 'stopped' or 'prevented'?
5. What word means something has bad luck?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I'd have won quite a lot of money but my horse was _____ by the favourite.

crashed out	pipped at the post	heartbroken	haunted
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2. Have you seen my keys? I seem to have _____ them.

deflated	spot-kicked	misplaced	setback
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3. John attempted to clean the windows but was _____ when it started to rain.

winning	triumphed	failed	thwarted
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4. Bob feared his injury _____ could prevent him competing in another marathon.

consolation	narrow margin	penalty shootout	jinx
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5. Sandra's extraordinary courage meant she was able to _____ and defeat the rare illness.

overcome the odds	haunt	crash out	pip to the post
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. By what other name is the England football team known? The Three Lions
2. What phrase describes when a result is not known and remains in suspense? hung in the balance
3. What word in the article means zero? nil
4. What verb means 'stopped' or 'prevented'? thwarted
5. What word means something has bad luck? jinx

Exercise 练习

1. I'd have won quite a lot of money but my horse was pipped at the post by the favourite.
2. Have you seen my keys? I seem to have misplaced them.
3. John attempted to clean the windows but was thwarted when it started to rain.
4. Bob feared his injury jinx could prevent him competing in another marathon.
5. Sandra's extraordinary courage meant she was able to overcome the odds and defeat the rare illness.

Glossary 词汇表

crashed out	出局, 被淘汰
penalty shootout	罚点球
pipped at the post	在最后一刻被击败, 功败垂成
hung in the balance	不相上下, 胜败未定
the omens	预兆
misplaced	错误判断
with their hearts in their mouths	悬心吊胆, 心惊肉跳
thwarted	挫败
the final nail in the coffin	盖棺定论, 最终失败
shattered	粉碎, 破灭
deflated	泄气
heartbroken	伤心的
jinx	厄运
to haunt	萦绕

with their tails between their legs 夹着尾巴

consolation 安慰

a narrow margin 比分相差极小

setback 挫折

overcome the odds 克服困难
