



## **READING COMPREHENSION**

1. Read the following text and answer the questions below.

### **Atlético de Madrid knocked Spanish rivals, Barcelona, out of the Champions League as Koke's early goal gave them a 2-1 aggregate win over the Catalan giants**

The midfielder's close-range shot put the Spanish league leaders into the semi-finals following the 1-1 draw in Barcelona last week.

Hosts, Atlético, struck the woodwork three times in the opening 20 minutes. Gabi wasted a fine chance for Atlético after the break, while Neymar went close with a diving header for Barcelona.

Koke's goal was his first in European competition. The result puts Atlético into the last four of the competition for the first time since 1974 and, with Diego Simeone's side heading La Liga by a point from Barcelona with six games remaining, a domestic and European double is a distinct possibility.

Barcelona counterpart, Gerardo Martino, by contrast, must contemplate the fact that his side has become the first Barça team to fail to reach the semi-finals of the Champions League since 2007.

Four previous meetings between the two sides this season - in La Liga, the Spanish Super Cup and the first-leg of this tie - had all ended in draws, but Atlético began the match positively rather than being content to rest on their away goal advantage.

Adrián Lopez, in the side for Diego Costa with the prolific striker ruled out by a hamstring injury, shot against the post in the fifth minute, but within seconds Atlético was ahead.

Former Barcelona forward, David Villa, collected the rebound to cross from the left and Koke - recently called "an extraordinary footballer" by Barcelona's Xavi - stabbed the ball past Barça goalkeeper, José Manuel Pinto.

There was no respite from Atlético, who came close to killing the tie off before the 20-minute mark, with Villa hitting the post and then the crossbar.

Although the Catalans improved as the game developed, they failed to consistently test Atlético goalkeeper, Thibaut Courtois.

Diego, scorer of the crucial away goal in the first-leg, forced Pinto into action with a fierce shot from a tight angle after Atlético had soaked up Barcelona's pressure in the early part of the second half.

Gabi's weak shot at the feet of Pinto wasted another chance for the hosts, who soon had a penalty claim ignored by referee Howard Webb after Villa had gone down under a challenge from Javier Mascherano.

Atlético last made the semi-finals of this competition in 1974, when they beat Celtic 2-2 on aggregate.

### **QUESTIONS**

- 1) The aggregate score of the quarter-final matches between Atlético de Madrid and Barcelona has been...**
  - a) 1-0
  - b) 1-1
  - c) 2-1
  
- 2) How many goals has Koke scored so far in European competition in his professional career?**
  - a) None
  - b) One
  - c) Two
  
- 3) How long has it been since Atlético de Madrid last reached the semi-finals in the Champions League?**
  - a) It is the first time that they are in the semi-finals.
  - b) It has been 40 years since the last time.
  - c) It has been 20 years.
  
- 4) Within this season, Atlético could win...**
  - a) The Spanish League
  - b) The Champions League
  - c) The Spanish and the Champions leagues
  
- 5) The goal scorers on Atlético de Madrid's side in the first and second leg of the quarter-finals have been...**
  - a) Koke and Diego
  - b) Adrián López and David Villa
  - c) Gabi and David Villa