

UNIT 12 IRISH FOOTBALL - SAIPAN

WARM UP

- How popular is football in your country? Are you a fan?
- Who is the most popular sportsperson in your country?
- Is there any famous person in your country who divides opinion, people either love them or really dislike them?

PART 1 WORLD CUP BUILDUP

Imagine it is two weeks before the World Cup. Match the expressions with how the fans, players or both are feeling.

- Focused
- Excited
- Ready to party
- Nervous
- Trying to stay relaxed
- Preparing for the challenge
- Looking forward to a holiday
- Ready to work hard

FANS	PLAYERS	BOTH

PART 2 PREPARATION

- What is a good World Cup preparation? Look at the list below and rank the items 1-10 in order of importance, individually first and then compare with a partner.



WORLD CUP PREPARATIONS	YOU	YOUR PARTNER
Hard training as a team		
Relaxation		
Correct footballs & training gear		
Getting used to the local weather		
A good quality football pitch		
Team bonding between the players		
Protection from media		
Medical & physio equipment		
A good hotel		
As little stress as possible		

- What roles should the manager / captain / players / football association play in the preparation?
- For World Cup 2002 in Japan and Korea, Ireland prepared on the small Pacific island of Saipan. See Maps 1 & 2.
 - Why do you think Saipan was chosen?
 - Do you think it's a good choice? Look back at the list above to help you decide.



QUOTES

Which is your favourite? Why?

"You discover more about a person in an hour of play than a year of talking."

- Plato

"Be careful of men who are driven by rage. They are not in control of their own art or of themselves."

- Henry Lawton

"Sometimes the best plan is to accept things and go with the flow."

- Mark Bona

"Incompetence and stupid administration have always robbed Irish sport. There is a lack of ambition and expectation."

- Eamon Dunphy

"Lots of people confuse bad management with destiny."

- Kim Hubbard

"As a coach, you need to trouble the comfortable and comfort the troubled."

- Ric Charlesworth

"Why do anything unless it is going to be great?"

- Peter Block

"The reasonable person adapts to the world, the unreasonable one tries to adapt the world to themselves. All progress depends on the unreasonable."

- G.B. Shaw

"Leadership is based on inspiration not domination."

- William Arthur Ward

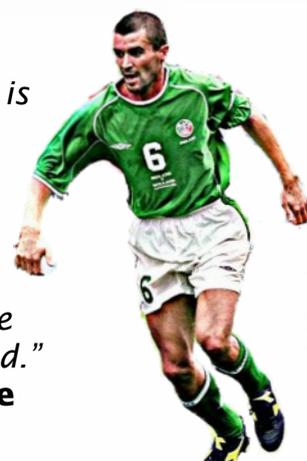
"All that I know most surely about morality and obligations I owe to football."

- Albert Camus

Can you share any similar quotes from your own culture?

"Aggression is what I do. You don't contest football matches in a reasonable state of mind."

- Roy Keane



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PART 3 THE MAIN CHARACTERS

1. Read about **Mick McCarthy**, **Niall Quinn** and **Roy Keane**, and their Ireland football careers. Answer the questions below.
 - **1990.** World Cup, Italia. McCarthy was Ireland's captain. Quinn scored the goal to get Ireland into the second round. Ireland lost in the quarter finals to Italy.
 - **1991.** Keane made his Ireland debut, and played with both McCarthy and Quinn.
 - **1993-'94.** Quinn and Keane helped Ireland qualify for World Cup, USA. Ireland lost to the Netherlands in the second round. Keane was Ireland's player of the tournament.
 - **1996.** Retired as a player, McCarthy became Ireland's new manager.
 - **1998.** Ireland failed to qualify for the World Cup in France. Keane became Ireland's new captain.
 - **2000.** Keane was very unhappy with Ireland's organisation and lack of professionalism and had a meeting with McCarthy to discuss improving standards.
 - **2001-'02.** Despite his continuing frustrations with the Irish team, Keane was Ireland's top scorer as they eliminated the Netherlands and qualified for the World Cup in Korea & Japan.

A. Which players played together for Ireland?
B. Which player both captained and managed Ireland?
C. Who was involved in qualification for three World Cups?
D. Who do you think was consistently Ireland's best player when he played?
2. Which of these words and expressions used to describe each man are positive (+), negative (-) or neutral (N)?

MICK MCCARTHY - Loyal, decent, insecure, strong-willed, direct, out of his depth
NIALL QUINN - Easygoing, old-school, diplomatic, needs to be liked, upbeat, a yes-man
ROY KEANE - Passionate, principled, outspoken, demanding, intense, a loner

PART 4 ARRIVAL IN SAIPAN

The Irish team travelled to Saipan via Amsterdam and Tokyo. See Map 1. When they arrived, there were some big problems with their World Cup preparations.

Read the reactions of McCarthy, Quinn and Keane and answer the questions.

'Nothing has arrived - training gear, sun lotion, the official World Cup ball. The football pitch is really bad. I am annoyed. It makes me look bad in front of the players. Preparation is my responsibility but the football association, the FAI, have questions to answer. I know from looking at Roy that he's not happy.' - **McCarthy**

'This is a week of rest and relaxation. We don't have footballs or training gear but the skies are blue and the beach and hotel are great. We're on our way to the World Cup. Relax. I know Roy is unhappy but I don't care. Human beings aren't an exact science. There is an indefinable thing called team spirit.' - **Quinn**

'Calm on one level, I am burning with anger on another level. I'm angry at the unprofessionalism, the lack of real ambition. This new fiasco eats into my soul. This is not what I've worked so hard for. You don't compromise on what you believe in.' - **Keane**

1. Whose reaction do you feel most sympathy for? How would you react?
2. What do you think each person should / will do next?



MICK
MCCARTHY



NIALL
QUINN



ROY
KEANE

UNIT 12 IRISH FOOTBALL - SAIPAN

PART 5 THE MEETING

In Saipan, Keane gave an interview to *The Irish Times* newspaper and was critical of the team's preparations. McCarthy organised a meeting of all the players in the hotel. **Read the three accounts of the meeting.**

I call a meeting. If someone has a problem, we will discuss it as a squad, not through the media. I ask Roy, as captain, to explain to the group anything he is unhappy about. I hold up the newspaper article. Roy explodes. The insults go on and on. He is out-of-control. Finally, I've had enough. I tell him to go and he storms out. Could I have done anything different? I don't think so. - McCarthy

Mick stands in front of all the players. He takes out a newspaper article. Bang! Suddenly, Roy goes off. For ten minutes it continues. It is an articulate, intelligent and complete destruction of Mick's character. All the players sit in silence, shocked. Afterwards, I wonder why I didn't try to stop Roy, and get him to calm down. 'You have your excuse now. It's all my fault,' Roy shouts. Then, he's gone. - Quinn

Mick says, 'Roy, you seem unhappy about something.' Why is he doing this? Keep cool, I tell myself. 'You never wanted to play for your country,' he says. Suddenly, I snap. It's everything. All the poor organisation over the years, disrespecting the Irish fans. And I'm the captain of this crap. The other players know all this too. Any support? Quinny? Nothing. When I leave the room, I know McCarthy has got what he wants. He's humiliated me in front of my teammates. It was a trap. - Keane

1. Who do you feel most sympathy for now?
2. Which account do you think is most accurate?
3. What do you think will / should happen next?

PART 6 A COUNTRY DIVIDED

Immediately after the meeting, McCarthy organised a press conference, with Quinn beside him, and said that he had sent Keane home. Back in Ireland, passions were high. The country was divided.

1. Listen and match each audio extract with a speaker. **Audio File 12.6 - ONLINE SECTION.**

AUDIO	SPEAKER	AUDIO	SPEAKER
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

A. Quinn **B.** The psychologist **C.** The Irish prime minister **D.** The FAI representative **E.** McCarthy **F.** Keane's biographer **G.** The Saipan pitch attendant **H.** Keane

2. Listen to the audio again and answer the questions below.

- A. For what reason does McCarthy say that he sent Keane home?
- B. Who is Quinn worried about?
- C. Which two speakers agree that the football pitch in Saipan was really bad?
- D. Name one person who supports Keane and one who doesn't.
- E. Why does the psychologist find the situation ironic?
- F. Who hopes for a positive resolution?

3. What do you think will / should happen next?



UNIT 12 IRISH FOOTBALL - SAIPAN

PART 7 THERE'S STILL HOPE



1. Nearly a week has passed. Quinn is working to try get Keane to come back to the World Cup, but he needs to get both McCarthy and Keane to agree. Listen to the audio of Keane, Quinn, McCarthy and the psychologist and find out if Keane is coming back. **Audio file 12.7 - ONLINE SECTION.**
2. Listen again and answer the questions below.
 - A. What does Keane say is 'nonsense'?
 - B. How is Quinn feeling?
 - C. What is McCarthy hoping for?
 - D. Why does the psychologist think a phone call between Keane and McCarthy never happened?



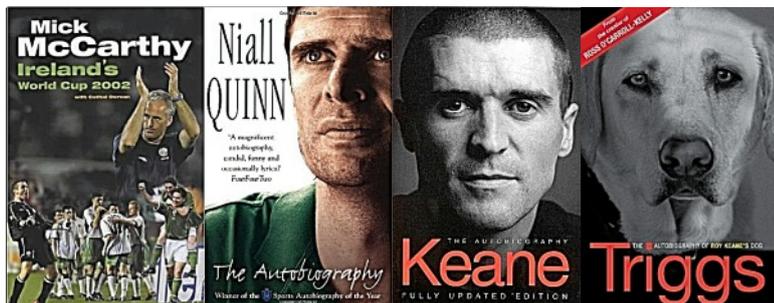
PART 8 THE WORLD CUP THAT WAS

While Ireland played the World Cup, Keane was at home walking his dog. Ireland lost in the second round on penalties to Spain. Quinn and Keane announced their retirements from the Irish team. McCarthy continued as manager. Arguments about who was right and wrong continued long after the World Cup.

1. So, whose side are you on?
2. Who do you blame most for what happened?

PART 8 SAIPAN TO SUNDERLAND TO IRELAND AGAIN

1. In pairs, say if you think each of the events below are TRUE or FALSE (T/F).



Aug - Sept. '02: McCarthy, Quinn and Keane all release biographies. McCarthy's sells the best.

Sept. '02: Sunderland vs Man Utd. Keane's ex-Irish teammate Jason McAteer makes fun of Keane's book during the game. Keane elbows him in the head and gets a red card.

Nov. '02: McCarthy quits as Irish manager after fans repeatedly sing Keane's name during a game.

Apr. '04: With McCarthy gone, Keane returns to play for Ireland, and is welcomed back by all the fans.

Nov. '05: Keane argues with his Manchester United manager and is forced to leave the club.

Mar. '06: As Sunderland manager, McCarthy argues with his best player and loses his job.

Aug. '06: Quinn buys Sunderland and appoints Keane as the new manager.

Apr. '07: Ipswich vs Sunderland. As rival managers, Keane and McCarthy meet for the first time since Saipan and refuse to shake hands.

Jun. '12: Roy Keane's dog, Triggs, releases an autobiography. It sells very well.

Jul. '16: With Keane as assistant manager, Ireland qualify for the European Championships and become European champions.

Nov. '18: Replacing Keane, McCarthy again becomes Ireland's manager.



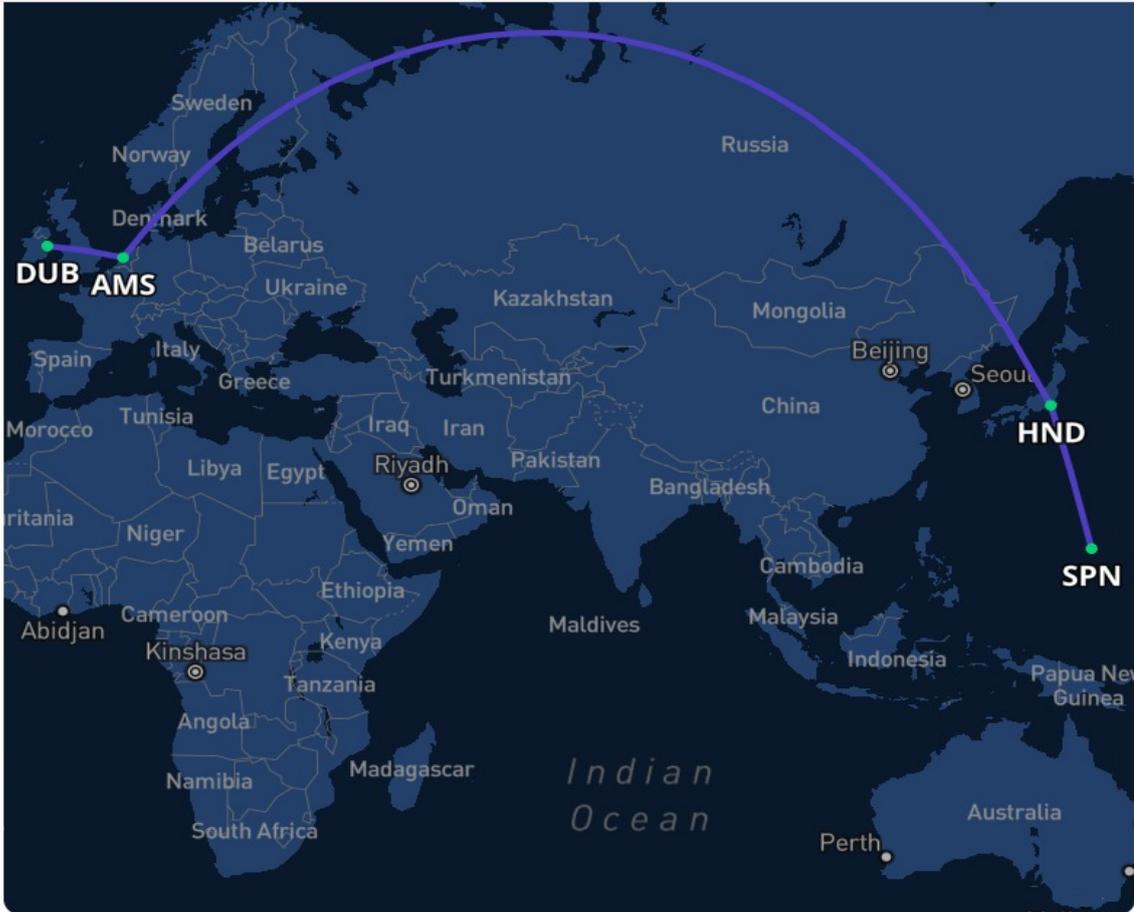
ON YOUR OWN

1. Watch the film 'Saipan' or read one of the autobiographies by Keane, Quinn or McCarthy (or Triggs!)
2. Read *The Irish Times* interview with Keane that caused all the trouble in Saipan. What do you think of it?
3. Ask an Irish person what they thought of Saipan. Did they support McCarthy or Keane? Report back.
4. Write about a controversial incident in your country which divided public opinion.

UNIT 12 IRISH FOOTBALL - SAIPAN

MAP 1 FLIGHTS

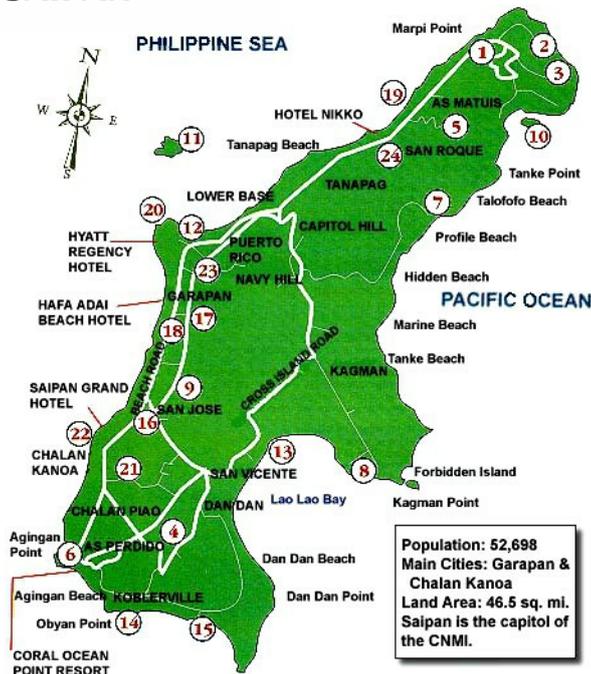
Shows the 17-hour journey of the Irish squad from Dublin to Saipan.



MAP 2 SAIPAN

Shows the geography of the island.

SAIPAN



UNIT 12 IRISH FOOTBALL - SAIPAN: ANSWERS & NOTES

WARM UP

It can be a good idea to give students extra background information during the lesson to give a sense of how big the Saipan affair was in Ireland at the time. There are links to extra photos and video footage in the **ONLINE SECTION**.

PART 1 WORLD CUP BUILDUP

Imagine it is two weeks before the World Cup. Match the expressions with how the fans, players or both are feeling.

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

FANS	PLAYERS	BOTH
<p>3. Ready to party</p> <p>7. Looking forward to a holiday</p>	<p>1. Focused</p> <p>6. Preparing for the challenge</p> <p>8. Ready to work hard</p>	<p>2. Excited</p> <p>4. Nervous</p> <p>5. Trying to stay relaxed</p>

PART 2 PREPARATION

1. What is a good World Cup preparation? Look at the list below and rank the items 1-10 in order of importance, individually first and then compare with a partner.

Everything in the list could be argued to be important and there are not necessarily any correct or incorrect answers. The key thing is to get students thinking and talking about the type of things that are important in preparing for a major sports tournament and to set up for the discussions that follow. You could get students to try to agree on the 5 most important things in the list.

2. What roles should the manager / captain / players / football association play in the preparation?

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

There are not necessarily definitive answers here and responsibilities might vary between different countries and organisations. A suggested allocation of responsibilities would be:

Manager

- Responsible for preparing the team on the pitch.
- Deciding where the training base will be.
- Communicating frequently with the football association (FAI) about preparation requirements.

Captain

- Setting the tone for the rest of the team in terms of preparation and performance on the field.
- May be involved in discussions with the manager about preparation and tactics though not always.

Players

- Preparing physically and mentally for tournament.
- Following the manager's instructions in training.
- Some senior players may be consulted about preparation and tactics though not always.

The Football Association

- Working with the manager in advance to decide the training base and all general preparation needs.
- Logistics - booking flights, hotels etc.
- Making sure all equipment for training is in place.

3. For World Cup 2002 in Japan and Korea, Ireland prepared on the small Pacific island of Saipan.

- Why do you think Saipan was chosen?

The Irish manager, Mick McCarthy, said he picked Saipan just for some light training, weather acclimatisation, relaxation and squad bonding. The serious pre-tournament training would take place in Japan the following week. He also picked Saipan to escape attention from the main World Cup media and fans.

- Do you think it could be a good choice?

In favour of Saipan

- Good hotel, beach and sunny weather for relaxation.
- Away from spotlight of the World Cup media.
- Allowed the players time to relax after a long season, to bond and build a good atmosphere in the team.

Against Saipan

- The training pitch is of very poor quality. The players can't train properly and there's a risk of injuries.
- The weather is very hot so it is difficult for the players to train properly.
- The distance of the island from Japan and Korea adds an extra flight and more travel stress for the players.
- The players are isolated from the excitement of the build-up to the World Cup.

The Irish football association, the FAI, had a very poor record in terms of organisation and planning for many years before 2002. This was a source of frustration, and sometimes bemusement, among the players. For example, during the 17-hour flight to Saipan, when the team passed through Amsterdam, the players joked that the FAI had bought cheap tickets from the Netherlands football association after they didn't qualify. The Ireland captain, Roy Keane had previously confronted the FAI on certain issues of organisation. For example, he'd complained about the players flying to games in economy class while FAI officials travelled in business class, and was successful in getting this changed.

PART 3 THE MAIN CHARACTERS

- Read about Mick McCarthy, Niall Quinn and Roy Keane, and their Ireland careers. Answer the questions below.
 - Which players played together for Ireland? *All three played together at different times.*
 - Which player both captained and managed Ireland? *Mick McCarthy*
 - Who was involved in qualification for three World Cups? *Niall Quinn*
 - Who do you think was consistently Ireland's best player when he played? *Roy Keane - he was player of the tournament at the 1994 World Cup and Ireland's top scorer during qualification for World Cup 2002.*
- Are the words and expressions used to describe each man positive (+), negative (-) or neutral (N)?

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

Mick McCarthy	+/-/N	Niall Quinn	+/-/N	Roy Keane	+/-/N
Loyal	+	Easygoing	N	Passionate	+
Decent	+	Old school	N	Principled	+
Insecure	-	Diplomatic	+	Outspoken	N
Strong-willed	N	Needs to be liked	-	Demanding	-
Direct	N	Upbeat	+	Intense	N
Out of his depth	-	A yes-man	-	A loner	-

- Feel free to disagree with any of the suggested answers above.
- Let students use dictionaries to look up the meanings of any of the words or expressions above.
- All of these words or expressions were used at some point during the Saipan debate to describe the three men. Some were used by each of the three men to describe each other, others by various different commentators.
- Encourage discussion about why each word might be positive, negative or neutral. For example, while being *demanding* could be generally seen as a negative, in the context of elite level sport it could be a positive.
- The idea of this exercise is to give a picture of what type of characters the three men are, before we look at the events they were involved in. Knowing their personalities will help students understand and predict their behaviour.

PART 4 ARRIVAL IN SAIPAN

The Irish team travelled to Saipan via Amsterdam and Tokyo. When they arrived, there were some big problems with their World Cup preparations. Read the reactions of McCarthy, Quinn and Keane and answer the questions.

***The three extracts included in the unit are adapted from passages from the biographies of Keane, McCarthy and Quinn. See ONLINE SECTION.**

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

- Whose reaction do you feel most sympathy for? How would you react?**

It is clear that all three men agree that the football pitch is very bad and that the training gear not arriving is poor organisation.

- McCarthy seems to be angry with the FAI. He does also accept personal responsibility and seems worried about how the players and Keane in particular will view the situation.*
- Quinn is quite relaxed and concentrates on the positives. He seems most interested in the morale and spirit of the team rather the specifics of organisation. He is happy to relax on the island.*
- Keane is furious. He seems to view this situation as another manifestation of Ireland's lack of professionalism and ambition, which he feels will be reflected in Ireland's performance during the World Cup.*

Encourage students to give their own opinions on how they would react themselves in this situation. Even if they don't agree with one person, can they see where they're coming from? For example, if they think they'd be quite relaxed like Quinn, could they understand why Keane is so frustrated?

- What do you think each person should do next?**

Think about what each person could do to improve the situation. For example:

- If McCarthy sees that Keane is unhappy, he should perhaps go and talk to him, particularly as he knows the character that Keane has and the fact that they have previously talked together about the need to improve preparation etc.*
- Keane could arrange a meeting with McCarthy himself to express his frustrations and to look at what they could do to improve the situation.*
- Quinn could perhaps try to mediate between McCarthy and Keane. As a long-time teammate of Keane, he could go and talk to him.*
- They could all work together to try and find practical solutions, e.g. an alternative training pitch etc.*

What do you think each person will do next?

What we have learned about the three men - from the brief summary of their history together, from the adjectives used to describe them and from the descriptions of their reactions to Saipan - should help us to be able to imagine how they might act next. Get the students to come up with a few suggestions of different scenarios that might happen before going on to read the next section.

What the students think will happen next may be very different from what they think should happen.

PART 5 THE MEETING

For more extended accounts of the meeting in Saipan from McCarthy, Quinn and Keane, see the ONLINE SECTION. There are many different opinions on what happened, as always feel free to disagree with any of the suggested answers.

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Who do you feel most sympathy for now?

McCarthy

For: McCarthy seemed genuinely shocked and confused by Keane's reaction. He went in the meeting with the idea of asserting his authority, not with the intention to send his best player home.

Against: It was probably poorly judged and poor management to call a meeting. McCarthy knew Keane's character, knew how unhappy he was and perhaps could have better anticipated Keane's reaction. McCarthy was angry going into the meeting and should perhaps have waited until he'd calmed down after reading the newspaper article. He could have talked to Keane in private.

Quinn

For: He, like the other players, was caught in the middle. Presumably, the last thing he wanted was the manager and captain arguing like this just before the World Cup.

Against: Quinn criticised himself for not intervening during the meeting but it is not clear that this would have made any difference. He could perhaps have been more responsive to his captain before the meeting and more proactive in trying to address the issues with the island, the training pitch etc.

Keane

For: He felt he was fighting for what was right, for Ireland to do their best in the World Cup and that he was being attacked for wanting the best. He seemed unable to control his emotions in the moment.

Against: Whatever his feelings, Keane was, according to most accounts, out of order in how he spoke to McCarthy. He should have tried to remain calm and make his point in a more respectful way.

2. Which account do you think is most accurate?

The three accounts are subjective. What happened at 'that meeting' is something that Irish football fans continue to argue about to this day. All three accounts here broadly agree on some fundamentals of what was discussed, i.e. McCarthy questioned Keane about the newspaper article and Keane at some point responded by attacking McCarthy. What differs is the interpretation of the significance of what was happening.

McCarthy seemed to feel he needed to assert his authority as manager. He was angry at Keane going into the meeting because of the newspaper article. He felt it was important to bring it up in front of the group of players. He was shocked at the ferocity of Keane's reaction.

Quinn was surprised by Keane's reaction to McCarthy. Neither Quinn nor any of the other players knew about the article, nor did they know beforehand what the meeting was going to be about. Quinn was disappointed in himself that he didn't try to intervene.

Keane suggests that McCarthy was provoking him, that the meeting was a trap to try make him look bad. He says that he finally reacted only when he couldn't keep calm anymore. He was disappointed, though not surprised, that none of the other players supported him.

3. What do you think will / should happen next?

What you think will happen may differ from what you think should happen. For example, you may think that Keane should go back and apologise to McCarthy. However, from what you know of Keane's character already, you may think that this is unlikely to happen.

What should happen next perhaps may depend on your opinion of Keane. As Ireland's best and most influential player, presumably you'd want him on the pitch for the World Cup. In that case, McCarthy could go after him to talk to him alone or some of the other players could go and talk to him and they could try to find a resolution to the situation to keep him in the squad.

Others would argue that Keane is negatively affecting the spirit and atmosphere within the group and the team would be better off without him. He has crossed a line with the manager and undermined him and it is better for the squad as a whole and McCarthy's leadership if he leaves.

What actually did happen was that McCarthy organised a press conference immediately after the end of the meeting and announced that he had sent Keane home. In light of subsequent events, it would probably have been better to wait a bit longer before having the press conference.

PART 6 A COUNTRY DIVIDED

1. Listen and match each audio extract with a speaker. **Audio File 12.5.a - ONLINE SECTION.**

These are authentic listenings and can be challenging for students, with background noise etc. Give students as much support and scaffolding as possible to make the listenings accessible. Encourage students to predict answers before listening. Feel free to play each audio two or three times. For lower levels, you may wish to photocopy the tapescripts at the end of these notes and allow students to read as they listen.

AUDIO	SPEAKER	AUDIO	SPEAKER
1	E. Mick McCarthy	5	D. The FAI representative (John Delaney)
2	H. Roy Keane	6	C. The Irish prime minister (Bertie Ahern)
3	G. The Saipan pitch attendant	7	F. Keane's biographer (Eamon Dunphy)
4	A. Niall Quinn	8	B. The psychologist

PART 6 A COUNTRY DIVIDED *Contd*

2. Listen to the audio again and answer the questions below.

- A. For what reason does McCarthy say that he sent Keane home?
Because he wouldn't tolerate the level of abuse Keane directed at him.
- B. Who is Quinn worried about?
The younger players.
- C. Which two speakers agree that the football pitch in Saipan was really bad?
Keane and the Saipan pitch attendant.
- D. Name one person who supports Keane and one who doesn't.
*Keane's biographer supports him.
The FAI representative and McCarthy don't.*
- E. Why does the psychologist find the situation ironic?
If people support Keane, they think that everything he does is correct and vice versa for McCarthy. What is ironic is that no one really knows exactly what happened.
- F. Who hopes for a positive resolution?
The Irish prime minister.

3 What do you think will / should happen next?

Many Irish fans were still hopeful that a way could be found for Keane to return because he was so important to the team. Other fans had already decided that they didn't want him to return.

PART 7 THERE'S STILL HOPE

1. Listen to the audio of Keane, Quinn, McCarthy and the psychologist and find out if Keane is coming back. Audio File 12.5.b - ONLINE SECTION.

From the audio, it should now be clear that Keane is not coming back.

2. Listen again and answer the questions below.

- A. What does Keane say is 'nonsense'?
That he is some kind of 'loner' or 'monster'.
- B. How is Quinn feeling?
Devastated. Because he felt they came really close to getting Keane back.
- C. What is McCarthy hoping for?
That regardless of what people think of him, they will fully support the players in the World Cup.
- D. Why does the psychologist think a phone call between Keane and McCarthy never happened?
When strong emotion is involved, a solution may seem simple but it is not easy to reach.

PART 8 SAIPAN TO SUNDERLAND TO IRELAND AGAIN

1. In pairs, say if you think each of the events below are TRUE or FALSE.

Aug - Sept '02: McCarthy, Quinn and Keane all release biographies. McCarthy's sells the best.
FALSE. It is true that all three of them do release biographies but Keane's is the best-selling.

Sept '02: Sunderland vs Man Utd. Keane's ex-Irish teammate Jason McAteer makes fun of Keane about his book during the game. Keane elbows him in the head and gets a red card.
TRUE. (See video - ONLINE SECTION.)

Nov. '02: McCarthy quits as Ireland manager after fans repeatedly sing Keane's name during a game.
TRUE. Some supporters want McCarthy out, hoping it would mean Keane's return.

April '04: With McCarthy gone, Keane returns to play for Ireland, and is welcomed back by all the fans.
FALSE. Some fans welcome Keane back as a hero. Others regard him as a traitor and boo him.

Nov. '05: Keane argues with his manager at Manchester United and is forced to leave the club.
TRUE. Keane and the manager Alex Ferguson had a long, close relationship but both of them are fiery characters and it ends badly.

Mar. '06: As Sunderland manager, McCarthy argues with his best player and loses his job.
FALSE. McCarthy does lose his job with Sunderland but it is because they are relegated from the Premier League.

Aug '06: Quinn buys Sunderland and appoints Keane as the new manager.
TRUE. Quinn bought the club with a group of Irish businessmen. Keane had just retired as a player.

April '07: Ipswich vs Sunderland. As rival managers, Keane and McCarthy meet for the first time since Saipan and refuse to shake hands.
FALSE. They do shake hands.

Jun. '12: Keane's dog, Triggs, releases his autobiography. It sells very well.
TRUE. Comedy writer Paul Howard wrote a fictional and funny account of Triggs' life with Keane.

Jul '16: With Keane as assistant manager, Ireland qualify for the European Championships and become European champions.
FALSE. We wish, we dream. Ireland lose to France in the second round.

Nov. '18: Replacing Keane, and manager Martin O'Neill, McCarthy again becomes Ireland manager.
TRUE. McCarthy got Ireland to a play-off for the 2020 European Championships before being replaced.

PART 6 'A COUNTRY DIVIDED'

AUDIO FILE 12.6 - TAPESCRIPT

INTRO

Newsreader: "Ireland's skipper Roy Keane has been sent home from the World Cup..."

Fan 1 "I think he's let himself down. I think in a couple of days he'll wake up and wonder why he gave up the chance to play in the World Cup for Ireland."

Fan 2 "He got us to the World Cup. McCarthy was there as a leader. He's no leader now."

1. "I can't, will not tolerate the level of abuse that was thrown at me so I have sent him home."
2. "A lot of people will say, well it's typical of Roy and Roy should really shut up. But I can't, I can't. Especially if I'm captain of the team. We come over here, we travel halfway across the world and the training pitch is a disgrace. Somebody's got to hold up their hand and say... It's like training on a car park."
3. "The Irish came up and said 'Yo, we need a field.' I knew what they were going to expect and I knew the field wasn't going to be ready. When it rains, it made puddles and holes. When it gets dry, it's solid as a rock."
4. "I'm a senior player. I'm drained, I'm shattered. How do you think the young lads are?"
5. "Roy sets very high standards. He's been critical of the FAI in the past. We've responded in the past to the problems that he highlighted. But I think on this occasion, for the first time, he really went past the post. He upset the players, he upset team morale, he upset the manager."
6. "And here at home the story was top of our leader's agenda... 'There's a huge, huge public interest in this and it would be just great if it can be reconciled. I don't know if it can or not.'"
7. "Roy loves the game and I think he feels that for too long in Ireland the Irish soccer public has been cheated by incompetence and not reaching the standards that the Italians, the French, the Germans and the English reach in terms of logistics and preparation and he's right. He's pointed the finger and he's told the truth."
8. "What's interesting psychologically is that people made up their minds depending on their allegiance. So, in other words, if you were a Roy Keane fan, everything he did made sense and was justifiable and if you were a McCarthy fan, similarly. But the irony was that nobody knew the full facts."

FANS "Come back Roy Keane!"

PART 7 THERE'S STILL HOPE

AUDIO FILE 12.7 - TAPESCRIPT

INTRO - NEWSREADER:

"It's now almost a week since those first reports began to emerge from the Ireland training camp in Saipan. Captain Roy Keane, possibly the world's greatest midfield player, certainly the player most responsible for Ireland's qualification for the World Cup..."

ROY KEANE:

"Of course I lost my temper... But people make me out to be a monster and a loner. That's nonsense, absolute nonsense." (Interviewer - "If you thought that the players would take you back, that they wanted you back...") "Take me back? What do you mean if they'd take me back?" ("If they thought that they'd love to have you in the team, that Mick McCarthy was prepared to bury the hatchet with you. What would Roy Keane...?") "I really don't know, I really don't know because I can't see it happening." ("It's hurting you this...") "Of course it's hurting me. Dead right it is."

NIALL QUINN:

"And I think it's reached the end now. The players, especially the younger players can't take any more. It had to come to this. And I'm just so devastated because we came so very close to getting Roy out here."

MICK MCCARTHY:

"It has been dealt with. It's not going to change now and I'd like to think that you're going to support the twenty two players. Whether you support me or not, irrelevant at this stage. Get behind them guys."

PSYCHOLOGIST:

"When we look at the Keane-McCarthy conflict, it appears that there was a time when all that was required was merely a phone call and the problem would have been resolved. And it's a pity that phone call wasn't made, that's clear at the outset. But the solution sometimes can appear simple, but when you've got emotion deeply invested in it, then it's not easy for that solution to emerge."