CLASSROOM WORKSHEET

# Ronaldo Ends 23-Year International Career With Portugal

Sport · Nov 5, 2026 · 2 min read

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 11



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## 1 Read

The number beside each paragraph helps you talk about it.

1 Ronaldo has announced on social media that he has played his final match for Portugal. The 41-year-old forward has earned 234 caps and scored 146 goals. He has held the men's records for international appearances and goals. However, he will continue playing club football at Al-Nassr in Saudi Arabia.

2 Ronaldo captained Portugal to Euro 2016, their first major trophy. He also led them to Nations League titles in 2019 and 2025. The Portuguese Football Association has released a statement praising him. Officials said they plan to organize a tribute event.

3 His last appearance may have been the 1-0 win over Wales on September 24. Head coach Jorge Jesus benched him after that result. Ronaldo had worn the number seven shirt for 23 years. Like his rival Messi, who ended his Argentina career the previous month, he has now said goodbye to international football.

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## 2 Key words

**earned** /ɜːnd/ *verb*
got something through effort or hard work
*She earned a scholarship after years of studying very hard.*

**captained** /ˈkæp.teɪnd/ *verb*
led a sports team as its captain
*The experienced defender captained the team in the final.*

**tribute** /ˈtrɪb.juːt/ *noun*
an event or action that shows respect and praise for someone
*The city held a tribute for the teacher who retired after many years.*

**benched** /bentʃt/ *verb*
made a player sit on the bench instead of letting them play in the game
*The manager benched the striker after his poor performance in training.*

**records** /ˈrek.ɔːdz/ *noun*
the best results ever achieved in a sport or activity
*She broke several records at the swimming championships.*

**praising** /ˈpreɪ.zɪŋ/ *verb*
saying positive things about someone's achievements or qualities
*The head teacher was praising the students for their excellent project.*

## 3 Grammar focus

### Present perfect

**has / have + past participle**

Use has or have + a past participle (has found, have built) for something that happened in the past and is still important now. We do not say exactly when.

1. Ronaldo has announced on social media that he has played his final match for Portugal.
2. His last appearance may have been the 1-0 win over Wales on September 24.
3. The 41-year-old forward has earned 234 caps and scored 146 goals.

*Find each has / have + participle. What is the result that matters now?*

## 4 Reading comprehension

### EXERCISE 1 Understanding the Story

3 points

*Read the text and choose the correct answer for each question.*

**1** Where did Ronaldo announce his retirement from international football?

(a) In a press conference
(b) On social media
(c) At a tribute event
(d) Through the Football Association

**2** What will Ronaldo continue doing after this announcement?

(a) Playing for Portugal in friendlies
(b) Coaching at Al-Nassr
(c) Playing club football at Al-Nassr
(d) Organizing a tribute event

**3** What did head coach Jorge Jesus do to Ronaldo after the match against Wales?

(a) He praised him publicly
(b) He benched him
(c) He gave him the number seven shirt
(d) He announced a tribute event

### EXERCISE 2 Answer Questions About the Text

*Answer each question with a short sentence using information from the text.*

**1** What records did Ronaldo hold for men's international football?

**2** What was Portugal's first major trophy, and when did Ronaldo win it?

**3** What does the Portuguese Football Association plan to organize?

## 5 Vocabulary and grammar practice

### EXERCISE 3 Past Simple and Past Perfect

3 points

*Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.*

1 Ronaldo _____ (captain) Portugal to Euro 2016, their first major trophy.

2 Head coach Jorge Jesus _____ (bench) him after the result against Wales.

3 Ronaldo _____ (wear) the number seven shirt for 23 years before ending his international career.

### EXERCISE 4 Match the Words to Their Meanings

5 points

*Match each vocabulary word to its correct definition.*

1 earned _____

2 captained _____

3 tribute _____

4 benched _____

5 praising _____

A got something through effort or hard work

B an event or action that shows respect and praise for someone

C led a sports team as its captain

D saying positive things about someone's achievements

E made a player sit on the bench instead of playing in the game

## 6 Guided writing

**EXERCISE 5** **Summarize the Story**

*Write a short summary (50–90 words) of Ronaldo's announcement to end his international career. Include information about what he achieved, what the Football Association plans, and what he will do next. Use the words: career, captained, tribute, records. Write 50 to 90 words.*

# Answer key

For the teacher

Keep this page for yourself and copy only the pages before it. Short-answer and writing tasks list one possible answer.

## Exercise 1 Understanding the Story

1. B. On social media The text says: 'Ronaldo has announced on social media that he has played his final match for Portugal.'
2. C. Playing club football at Al-Nassr The text states: 'he will continue playing club football at Al-Nassr in Saudi Arabia.'
3. B. He benched him The text says: 'Head coach Jorge Jesus benched him after that result.'

## Exercise 2 Answer Questions About the Text

1. Ronaldo held the men's records for international appearances and goals. The text states he 'has held the men's records for international appearances and goals.'
2. Ronaldo captained Portugal to Euro 2016, which was their first major trophy. The text says: 'Ronaldo captained Portugal to Euro 2016, their first major trophy.'
3. The Portuguese Football Association plans to organize a tribute event. The text says: 'Officials said they plan to organize a tribute event.'

## Exercise 3 Past Simple and Past Perfect

1. captained Use the past simple because it describes a completed event in the past (Euro 2016).
2. benched Use the past simple for a completed action in the past that happened after the Wales match.
3. had worn Use the past perfect because the action (wearing the shirt) happened before another past event (announcing retirement).

## Exercise 4 Match the Words to Their Meanings

1. A. got something through effort or hard work
2. C. led a sports team as its captain
3. B. an event or action that shows respect and praise for someone
4. E. made a player sit on the bench instead of playing in the game
5. D. saying positive things about someone's achievements

## Exercise 5 Summarize the Story

Ronaldo ended his 23-year international career with Portugal. He captained the team to Euro 2016, their first major trophy, and also led them to Nations League titles. He held the men's records for international appearances and goals. The Portuguese Football Association plans to organize a tribute event for him. Ronaldo will continue playing club football at Al-Nassr in Saudi Arabia. One possible answer. Yours will be different and can still be good: check it against the list.