Paul the Lucky Octopus

Over the past few weeks, Paul the Octopus has been predicting the result of the World Cup football games. He’s an amazing animal!

Before each match, the sea creature’s owners have been putting some clear, plastic boxes into Paul’s tank. Each box is decorated with the flag of a football team.

Paul has been choosing one of the boxes by crawling towards it and he has correctly guessed the winner of six football games so far in the World Cup competition.

Is Paul a football expert or just a very lucky octopus?

Quick Questions

1. What does Paul predict the results of?

2. Which adjectives has the author used to describe the boxes in Paul’s tank?

3. Why do some people think Paul is a football expert?

4. What do you think – is Paul just a lucky octopus?
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Is Paul a football expert or just a very lucky octopus? What do you think?

Answers

1. What does Paul predict the results of?
   football matches (in the World Cup)

2. Which adjectives has the author used to describe the boxes in Paul’s tank?
   clear/plastic

3. Why do some people think Paul is a football expert?
   Example answer: Because he has already correctly predicted the winner of six matches.

4. What do you think – is Paul just a lucky octopus?
   Pupil’s own answer with reference to the text, e.g. Yes – because an octopus wouldn’t really know anything about sport.