

France v Argentina

Key battle



Antoine Griezmann v Lionel Messi

Two of LaLiga's star forwards have scored one goal each in Russia. Atletico Madrid's Griezmann will look to capitalise on Argentina's defensive struggles after the South Americans conceded five goals in three matches. Messi is still seeking his first goal in the World Cup knockout stages after 666 minutes of action.



TEAM NEWS

Didier Deschamps can reinstate Hugo Lloris and Paul Pogba in his starting XI after resting them against Denmark. Left-back Benjamin Mendy is injured.

TEAM NEWS

Jorge Sampaoli may field the same line-up for the first time: Sergio Aguero to stay on the bench and Franco Armani to remain in goal.

PLAYED

FRANCE WINS

DRAWS

ARGENTINA WINS

LAST MEETING

11

2

3

6

Friendly in Marseille, February 2009:
Argentina 2-0

Pundits' pick

Dietmar Hamann: Unimpressed by France

Former Germany midfielder and RTE pundit: "I just worry for them. I wouldn't worry about playing against them at all. I don't think they are a team... I think they flattered to deceive in the three games that they have played."

Hernan Crespo: La Albiceleste the underdogs

Former Argentina striker: "It won't be easy because they (France) are the favourites to win in this situation. They arrive better than us and they have a project behind them."