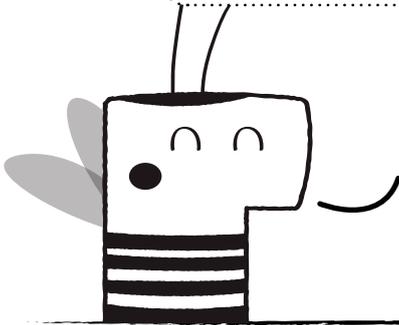


Name: _____

Group: _____



Alejandro Finisterre, an intellectually restless, creative and enterprising man, the inventor of the table football among other things.

Alejandro Campos Ramírez, nicknamed Alejandro Finisterre, was born in 1919 in Fisterra, Galicia and died in 2007 when he was 87 years old.

His parents business failed and they could not afford Alejandro's studies in Madrid. He was then fifteen years old. Alejandro paid for his room and board and studies teaching private lessons to preschool students. He was also a builder worker, a printing apprentice and a tap dancer in the Celia Gámez company.

The wounds he suffered during in a bomb attack in the Civil War, he was wounded so they took him to Montserrat Hospital in Barcelona and later to the Colonies Puig, where lots of children took care of his wounds. During his time in hospital he fell in love with a beautiful pianist, and he designed the first pedal page turner to read music sheets for her. This is probably the first invention he registered. During his time in hospital he saw how much the children wanted to play football.

With the help of Francisco Javier Altuna, a basque carpenter and looking at a table tennis, he invented the table football. He registered it in 1937.

He could not industrialize his invention because toy factories were busy making weapons.

When the Civil War was over in Spain, Alejandro Finisterre fled to France walking across the Pyrenees. On his way, he lost the papers of the table football patent.

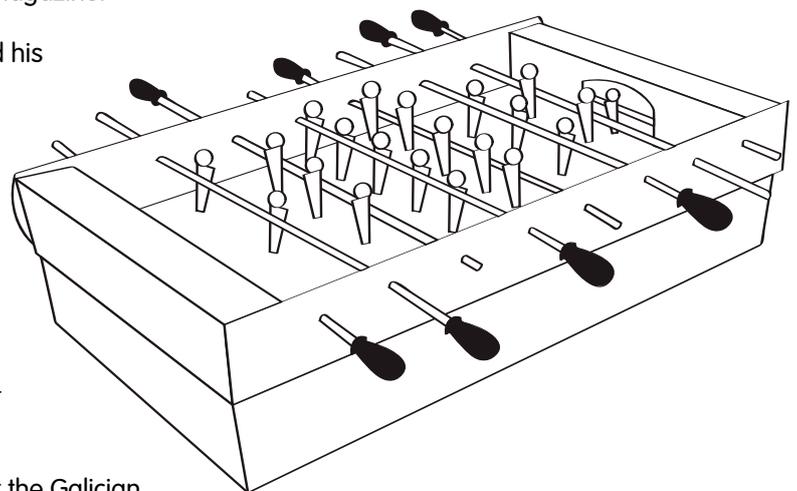
The french exile ended in 1948, at the same time that he got a lot of money thanks to the patent of the pedal page turner he had previously invented. He went to the capital of Ecuador where he started his editorial adventure, editing a literature magazine.

In 1952, he went to Guatemala where he improved his table football. The new table football was made of swedish iron bars and better wooden quality. The business succeeded and they made money.

He had to exile again because of another coup d' etat, this time, from Guatemala to Mexico where he worked as an editor thanks to his friendship with many exiled spanish writers living in Mexico, specially with León Felipe.

It returned to Spain after the Francoism and the last years resided in Zamora.

Despite living many years off his land, he never lost the Galician accent.



1 WE ARE CURIOUS 

1. Who is León Felipe?.....
2. Which is the capital of Ecuador?.....
3. Show on the map the spanish cities and the countries mentioned in the text. 



2 YOUR TURN

Let's make a "human table football"