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Baseball



Let's Think

1. Do you play any ball games?
2. Do you know how to play baseball?

You are Tammy, a Secondary 1 student at Long River College. You are reading an article about baseball in the school newsletter.

How much do you know about baseball?

2A Kelly Siu

Do you know the origin of baseball? If your answer is Japan, then you will be surprised by the answer below.

Baseball is in fact a traditional American bat-and-ball game! In case you do not know much about this sport, let me first give you some brief facts.

- 5 Each baseball game involves two opposing teams, and each team consists of nine players. During the game, the two teams take turns to bat and field in a baseball field, which many may refer to as a baseball diamond. After nine playing periods, which are professionally known as innings, the team that manages to outscore the other is the winner. However, if the scores of the
- 10 two teams tie after nine innings, there will be extra innings! Note that extra innings are quite common.

Speaking of baseball's popularity, the sport is loved by not only American people but also millions of people around the world. Some of the countries where baseball is well-liked include the Netherlands, Australia, Canada,

- 15 South Korea, France, and Japan. In Japan, the sport is extremely popular among people of all ages. Many Japanese people are often stunned to learn that it is not their country's national sport!

(197 words)

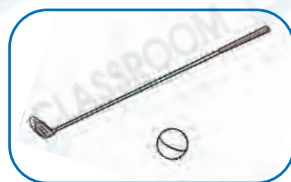
Part A

Answer the following questions using the information from the article. Choose the **BEST** answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

- In line 1, the word 'origin' means _____.
 - the place where something begins to exist
 - the cause of something
 - the country that someone comes from
 - the point on a graph
- It can be inferred that baseball is the national sport of _____.
 - Japan
 - Canada
 - the Netherlands
 - the United States
- Which of the following is **NOT TRUE**?
 - In a game, there are 18 baseball players on the baseball field.
 - Baseball came from America.
 - Every game has only 9 innings.
 - It is not rare to see the scores of two teams tie.
- Which of the following people may be a Japanese baseball fan?
 - a 22-year-old man
 - an 11-year-old girl
 - a 35-year-old woman
 - all of the above
- Which of the following shows the equipment used for playing baseball?



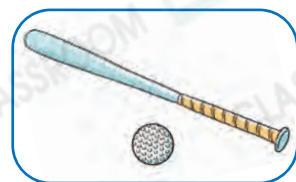
A.



B.



C.



D.

Grammar Corner

We can use **adverbs of manner** such as 'professionally' to describe how something happens.

e.g. *After nine playing periods, which are professionally known as innings, the team that manages to outscore the other is the winner.*
(Lines 7-9)

We can use **adverbs of degree** such as 'extremely' to describe the intensity of verbs, adjectives or adverbs.

e.g. *In Japan, the sport is extremely popular among people of all ages.*
(Lines 15-16)

Part B

Answer the following questions using the information from the article. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. What kind of game is baseball categorised as?

2. What is the alternative name for a baseball field?

3. What happens when the two teams' scores tie in the ninth inning?

4. Find a phrasal verb that means 'is formed from'.

5. Which of the following definitions best fits the verb 'tie' in the article?

- A. to fasten things together B. to make a knot in a string
 C. to unite in marriage D. to have an equal score



6. Complete the following summary table using the information provided in the article.

Name of the sport	(a)
Country of origin	(b)
Number of teams in each game	(c)
Number of players in each team	(d)

7. The article is _____.

- A. serious B. formal
 C. informative D. scientific

Vocabulary Bank

The following are some pieces of equipment that a baseball player may use. Match them with the correct pictures. One of the words is not used.

cleats batter's helmet mouth guard baseball bat
 pitcher's glove chest protector catcher's mask knee pad



1.



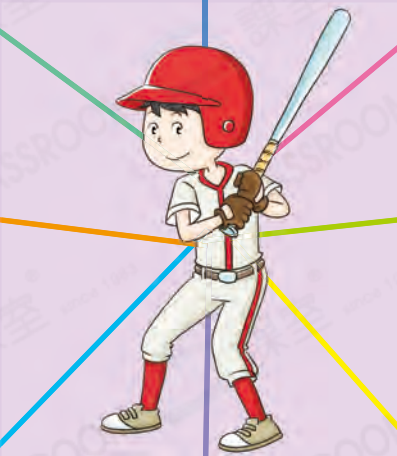
2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



Let's Discuss

1. Do you think every student should play at least one kind of sport? Why?
2. Do you think swimming should be a compulsory subject at school? Why?