

1. Finish the analogy.

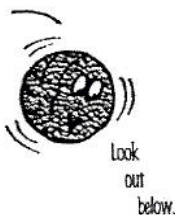
backboard : board :: \_\_\_\_\_ : storm

2. Circle letters that should be capitals.

**the boston celtics is the national basketball league team that has won the most championships.**

3. Circle the predicate nouns.

**Shaquille O'Neal is a talented player. For years he was an L.A. Laker. On the court, he looks massive.**



4. An editorial giving reasons that the city should build a new basketball arena is

☐ imaginative writing    ☐ persuasive writing  
☐ narrative writing       ☐ expository writing



5. Number the lines in a logical sequence with an abcb rhyming pattern.

\_\_\_\_ She dribbled back and forth and back  
\_\_\_\_ And shot it through the hoop.  
\_\_\_\_ Around the back and down the side  
\_\_\_\_ Ran around a loop.  
\_\_\_\_ Across the court and up the center  
\_\_\_\_ She ran in circles, ran in squares,  
\_\_\_\_ She doubled back and charged inside  
\_\_\_\_ She dribbled near and far and wide.

1. Choose a synonym for the underlined word.

The new guard on the team has attended the requisite number of practices.

☐ minimum    ☐ required    ☐ greatest

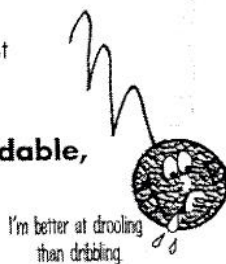
2. Correct any misspelled words.

**That player is admirable, commendable, lovable, reliable, and sensibal.**

3. Rewrite the sentences with active verbs.

After the game, Veronica felt proud.  
All the coaches seem annoyed.

4. Write a good introduction for an interview with the man who holds the world record for spinning the most basketballs at one time.



5. Give the dictionary page for each of these words.

drama    dowse    dribble    dread

|            |     |        |
|------------|-----|--------|
| drench     | 513 | drift  |
| drawbridge | 512 | dredge |
| drainpipe  | 511 | draw   |
| doze       | 510 | dragon |

1. Add correct punctuation.

**A Romanian-born basketball player who is 91 inches tall is the tallest man to play in the National Basketball League**

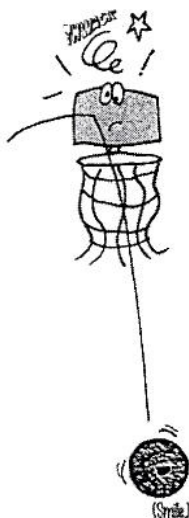
2. Circle the direct object(s). Draw a box around any indirect object(s).

**After we shouted cheers and built a human pyramid, we threw our pompons into the crowd.**

3. What are the meanings of the two italic words in the passage in 5?

4. Write an alliterative sentence using some of these words.

|          |        |         |
|----------|--------|---------|
| bumbling | basket | Bruno   |
| ball     | barely | beat    |
| buddies  | Boston | bruised |



5. Make an inference about what has happened to cause the mood or behavior of Player Number Eight.

Player Number Eight sat alone on the end of the bench. He had a towel draped over his head; his shoulders drooped, and he wore a *sullen* glare. His teammates on the floor were performing spectacularly. They stole the ball over and over, scoring 12 points in a row. Still he sat, almost motionless. Now and then he gave a *pretense* of excitement for the team by clapping weakly. For the most part, however, he stayed in his gloomy mood for the rest of the game.

1. Change each verb to past tense.

|         |       |      |
|---------|-------|------|
| mystify | envy  | pay  |
| defy    | worry | play |

2. Find a pair of homonyms to complete the sentence.

**Did the \_\_\_\_\_ (body part) \_\_\_\_\_ (get better)**

**before the championship game?**

3. Abby read about a basketball player who had shoes that enabled her to leap 20–30 feet into the air. This tale is probably

☐ fiction      ☐ nonfiction      ☐ biography

4. Write a great title for the story described above in problem 3.



5. Give the part of speech for each underlined word in the story.

A strange thing happened at the Rosebury High School basketball game last night. Just before half time, the lights went off. They were not off very long. But when they came back on, every basketball in the gym had disappeared. Officials, players, coaches, and students searched under the bleachers. Referees hurriedly unlocked the equipment room to get more balls. There were none to be found.

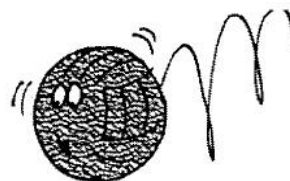


## Read

1. What is the area of a basketball court?
2. Describe three different ways a player could score 12 points.
3. What would probably happen if there were 13 players on the floor at one time?
4. Describe the purpose and the likely audience of the selection.
5. At what point does a player "foul out"?

## Some Basketball Facts

- A basketball basket is a bottomless white cord net suspended from a circular metal rim.
- The rim is 18 inches in diameter.
- The basket is suspended ten feet above the floor.
- The backboard of the basket is a fiberglass or wood rectangle.
- A basketball court is about 50 feet wide and 92 feet long.
- The floor is usually made of hardwood.
- During the game, players use an inflated ball made of leather or rubber.
- The object of the game is to score points by shooting the ball through the basket while keeping the other team from scoring.
- Each team has five players on the floor at one time.
- Players may dribble the ball as they move and shoot toward the basket or pass the ball to one another.
- Players may not run with the ball or kick the ball.
- Points can be scored by field goals (two points or three points) and by free throws (one point per successful throw).
- A game has quarters or halves, with the total time being 32–40 minutes of play.
- Players may not push, shove, or grab other players. Certain kinds of contact between players can result in a foul on a player or team.
- When a player is fouled by another player, the player fouled gets to shoot a free shot from the foul line.
- When a player gets five fouls (six in the NBA), he or she is out of the game.



## Write

1. Collect words that you can use to write a rhyming poem about basketball. Make one list that rhymes with each of these words: **gym, ball, team, win, hoop, toss, drop, run, score, lose, game.**
2. Write lines ending in these words and move them around until you have created a poem of four lines or more.