

GRADE

5

English Language Arts

Assesslet

Informational/
Explanatory Genre

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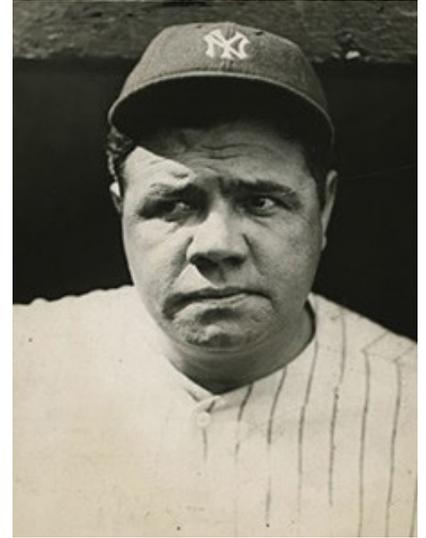
Directions

- Read all the directions for each question carefully and think about the answer.
- This Assesslet contains five items. Questions 1-3 are selected-response items where you choose the one **BEST** answer. Answer each question by filling in the circle **on your answer document**.
- Question 4 is a constructed-response item. Write your answer on the lines provided **on your answer document**.
- Question 5 is an extended-response item. Use the scratch paper provided to plan your writing. Then, write your essay on the lines provided **on your answer document**.
- Be sure to write your answers in the spaces provided **on the answer document**.

Read Passages A and B.
Then, respond to the questions that follow.

Passage A: George Herman Ruth, Jr. – Babe Ruth

George Herman Ruth, Jr. was born February 6, 1895, and died on August 16, 1948. He was an outfielder and pitcher who played baseball from 1914 to 1935 in the Major League. He actually started his career as a left-handed pitcher for the Boston Red Sox, but is best remembered for his outstanding outfield performance with the New York Yankees. He also set many batting records, including his famous 714 home runs. He was one of the first five players to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1936.



When George was seven years old, he was sent to a school for boys. He learned his baseball skills from one of the teachers at the school. Ruth was signed to play for the Baltimore Orioles in 1914, but was sold to the Red Sox 1916. Although he was known to be an outstanding pitcher, he wanted to be able to play every day. Because pitchers could not play every day, the coach allowed him to play as an outfielder. In 1919, he broke the single-season home run record.

After that season, he was sold to the New York Yankees, where he played for the next 15 years. He helped them win seven league championships and four World Series titles. He retired in 1935 after playing a short time for the Boston Braves.

Babe Ruth was a legend in baseball. His ability to hit home runs drew fans to the ballpark and helped the sport of baseball gain in popularity. Babe Ruth was a star on the ball field, but was not always successful in his personal life. Making some bad choices caused him problems in his later years of playing ball. However, Babe Ruth also tried to inspire others off the field. He made appearances in support of veterans during WWII and accepted appearances to talk with young athletes. In 1946, Ruth was diagnosed with cancer, and he died two years later. Babe Ruth is considered by many to be the greatest player of all time.

Passage B: Babe Ruth – the Sultan of Swat

My dad loves the game of baseball.
To him there is nothing better;
He can name every player,
Right down to the letter.

But one player stands atop his list.
Babe Ruth...The Sultan of Swat,
A talented man, a homerun hero,
His bat was always hot.

He was a pitcher and a catcher.
Not many can make that claim;
George Herman Ruth, Jr.,
A first in the Hall of Fame.

Whether an Oriole, a Yankee, or a Sock,
He gave the game his all;
Twenty-two seasons on the field,
He sure loved playing ball.

Babe did some things,
For which he was not proud;
But out there on the field,
He always pleased the crowd.

Babe inspired children,
And supported troops at war;
His home runs marveled spectators,
For him it was no chore.

Babe was a master of the game.
Just ask any of his fans;
My dad thinks he also had heart,
That he was a great man.



Selected-Response Questions

For questions 1-3, answer each question by filling in the circle on your answer document.

- 1** The two passages focus on the same central idea. Which statement **BEST** describes the central idea of Passages A and B?
- A** Babe Ruth was sent to a school for boys at age seven.
 - B** Babe Ruth played for more teams than any other baseball player.
 - C** Babe Ruth is considered to be one of the best baseball players of all time.
 - D** Babe Ruth was the first player to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 2** Which statement **BEST** describes how Babe Ruth felt about baseball?
- A** He played baseball because he loved the game.
 - B** He played baseball because he liked making a lot of money.
 - C** He played baseball because he liked being able to play for a lot of teams.
 - D** He played baseball because his dad always wanted him to be a ball player.
- 3** Which statement **BEST** explains why many fans love Babe Ruth?
- A** Babe Ruth played for many teams.
 - B** Babe Ruth excelled on the field and also helped people.
 - C** The fans loved him because he was an excellent pitcher.
 - D** He was a natural baseball player but did not work hard at the game.

Constructed-Response Question

- 4** Briefly describe how Babe Ruth helped baseball become a popular sport. In your response, cite one example from Passage A and one example from Passage B that supports your answer.

Write your answer on the lines provided **on your answer document**.

Extended-Response Question

- 5** Passages A and B have the same central idea. Write an informational essay comparing how the authors of Passages A and B develop the same central idea.

In your essay be sure to:

- Describe how the author of Passage A develops the central idea, using at least 2 examples from the Passage.
- Describe how the author of Passage B develops the central idea, using at least 2 examples from the Passage.
- Explain how these examples help develop the central idea.

Use the scratch paper provided to plan your writing. Then, write your essay on the lines provided **on your answer document**.