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# Weekly Test Lesson 20

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

## A Real Slugger

Frank Thomas, a future baseball star, was born on May 27, 1968. He was the fifth of six children born to Frank and Charlie Mae Thomas. The Thomas family lived in Columbus, Georgia. Both parents worked full time, so the Thomas children spent a great deal of time together and looked after one another.

As a teenager, Thomas was great at playing baseball, basketball, and football. However, he was not a natural athlete who could play well without practice. He had to work hard and practice for many hours for all three sports. In fact, he was cut from the boy's baseball team in his first year of high school. After much practice, he became a member of the state championship baseball team the next year. It was then that he realized that in order to be a professional athlete he needed to play one or two sports. So he stopped playing basketball.

In 1986, it was Thomas's senior year of high school. He was still unsure about which sport he wanted to play in college. Auburn University as well as many other schools offered him a football scholarship. However, Auburn was the only one that said he could play both football and baseball. Thomas was also interested in the yearly Major League Baseball draft. The Major League draft is when professional baseball teams choose new players. He was not chosen in the draft. Instead, he headed off to Auburn University on a football scholarship.

In Thomas's freshman year of college, he didn't get much playing time in the football games. He tried out for the baseball team in the spring. Thomas wanted to become the best baseball player he could be. The noise of his bat hitting the baseball became common when Thomas was at the plate. Crack! A college baseball star was born. His hard work paid off when he won the Most Valuable Player award in 1989. He became known throughout the United States as a terrific college baseball player.

That same year, the Chicago White Sox chose Thomas seventh in the first round of the Major League Baseball draft. He played on their rookie team. A rookie team is a team for new players who are in the Minor Leagues. From the first swing of his bat, Thomas amazed coaches and players. He was named the Minor League Player of the Year.

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## Reading

After just one year in the Minor League, Thomas moved up to the Major League team. He delighted his team and fans with his amazing baseball skills. He won the Major League Most Valuable Player award two years in a row. He was also one of the most feared hitters in the league. It earned him his nickname “The Big Hurt.” He also led his team with the highest batting average, number of home runs, and RBIs (runs batted in). Thomas retired in 2010 after playing for 19 years. However, the world of baseball did not forget him. He was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2014.

Frank Thomas’s success came from his determination and hard work. He found success because he followed his dreams and worked hard to achieve them.

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- 1 Read the sentences from the passage. Underline the **two** sentences that **best** support the idea that Frank Thomas was a star college baseball player.

In Thomas’s freshman year of college, he didn’t get much playing time in the football games. He tried out for the baseball team in the spring. Thomas wanted to become the best baseball player he could be. The noise of his bat hitting the baseball became common when Thomas was at the plate. Crack! A college baseball star was born. His hard work paid off when he won the Most Valuable Player award in 1989.

- 2 Read the sentences from the text.

The noise of his bat hitting the baseball became common when Thomas was at the plate. Crack! A college baseball star was born.

How does the word Crack! help the reader imagine Thomas playing college baseball?

- (A) It suggests how Thomas became a star.
- (B) It tells what Thomas said as he hit the ball.
- (C) It suggests a sound heard during a baseball game.
- (D) It tells how Thomas was hurt during a baseball game.

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## Reading

- 3 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

What is the main idea of paragraph 5?

- (A) The Chicago White Sox chose Thomas in the first round of the draft.
- (B) The Chicago White Sox have a Minor League team and a Major League team.
- (C) Thomas had a successful year as a Minor League player for the Chicago White Sox.
- (D) Thomas moved up to the Major League team after playing one year on the Minor League team.

**Part B**

Read the paragraph from the passage. Underline **two** sentences that support the answer to part A.

That same year, the Chicago White Sox chose Thomas seventh in the first round of the Major League Baseball draft. He played on their rookie team. A rookie team is a team for new players who are in the Minor Leagues. From the first swing of his bat, Thomas amazed coaches and players. He was named the Minor League Player of the Year.

- 4 Read the sentence from the passage.

He delighted his team and fans with his amazing baseball skills.

Which word has almost the same meaning as amazing?

- (A) unbelievable
- (B) interesting
- (C) important
- (D) surprising

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- 5 How does the author structure the passage?
- Ⓐ by setting up a problem and then showing the solution
  - Ⓑ by explaining an effect and then revealing the cause
  - Ⓒ based on the order in which events happened
  - Ⓓ based on where important events happened
- 6 What is the main idea of the entire passage? Use key details from the passage to support your answer.

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## Writing

7 Maggie is writing a list of ways she can help her neighbors. Read her list.

- Rake Dr. Phelps's leaves.
- Pull Mr. Simpson's weeds.
- Wash Capt. Cane's car.
- Brush dogs for Kevin Low Jnr.

What change should be made to correct an error in grammar usage?

- (A) Change Dr. to Dtr.
- (B) Change Mr. to Mtr.
- (C) Change Capt. to Cap.
- (D) Change Jnr. to Jr.

8 Franco made a list of things he has to do. Read the items on his list.

- Study for spelling test on Mon.
- Buy 10 ft. of rope.
- Run 1 mi. at running club.
- Go to karate on Thu.

What change should be made to correct an error in grammar?

- (A) Change Mon. to Mo.
- (B) Change ft. to fet.
- (C) Change mi. to mil.
- (D) Change Thu. to Thurs.

9 Which street address contains an error in grammar usage?

- (A) 4922 Harvey Rd.
- (B) 432 Poppy Way Blv.
- (C) 1005 Royal Palms St.
- (D) 2327 Winding Hills Ave.

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**Writing**

- 10 Marcus wrote a personal narrative about a family vacation. He needs help revising it for spelling errors. Read his paragraph. Underline **two** words that are spelled incorrectly.

Last summer, my family went to hike in a canyun. It took forever to get there because of traffic. When we got to the park, Aunt Rosa took a picure of our family. It was a perfect day for a hike. I stopped many times to collect rocks. It was hard taking the rocks back to the car, but it was worth the effort.