

Level: 710

RI.2.4/ RI.3.4- Unknown Words Name: _____ Date: _____

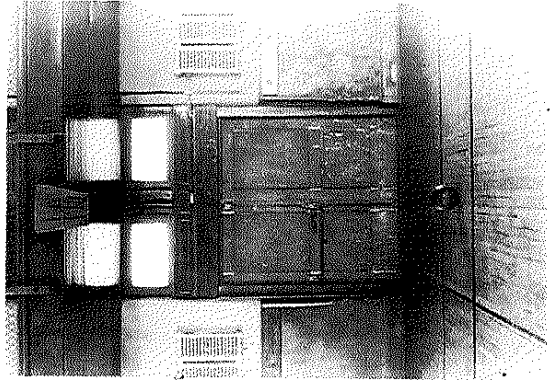
The History of Basketball

Basketball was invented by a physical education teacher named James Naismith. He **developed** this sport in 1891 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Naismith created this sport as an **alternative** to football. This was because football caused many injuries to the players. Basketball helped keep athletes in shape during the winter.



James Naismith

The first games of basketball included two peach baskets that were **affixed** to the railing of a gym balcony. Every time a player scored a point, the game had to be **halted**. Someone would need to get the ball out of the basket with a ladder. It wasn't until 1906 that metal hoops and nets were used. Someone suggested that this new game be called "Naismith Game" after the creator. Naismith decided upon the name "basketball".



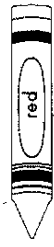
The gym in Springfield where the first game of basketball was played

Basketball quickly became **prevalent** in the 1900s in America. Soon after, its popularity spread across the world. Basketball first became popular in colleges. Later, it became a professional sport. The NBA (National Basketball Association) began in 1949. Today, basketball is a large part of American **culture**.

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

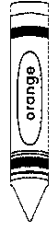
1. What is the meaning of "developed" as it is used in the first paragraph of the passage?

- a. played
- b. coached
- c. watched
- d. designed



RI.2.V 3.4- Unknown Words

2. Read these sentences from paragraph 1 of the passage:

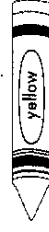


*Naismith created this sport as an **alternative** to football. This was because football caused many injuries to the players.*

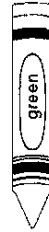
What does the word "alternative" mean in paragraph 1? (Pick all that apply.)

- a. game
- b. addition
- c. substitute
- d. different choice

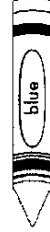
3. What is the meaning of the word "affixed" in paragraph 2?



4. What is the meaning of the word "halted" in paragraph 2?



5. Read these sentences from paragraph 3 of the passage:



*Basketball quickly became **prevalent** in the 1900s in America. Soon after, its popularity spread across the world.*

What does the word "prevalent" mean in paragraph 3?

6. What is the meaning of the word "culture" in paragraph 3?

- a. gyms
- b. sports
- c. tradition
- d. television

