

Baseball Basics

What do you know about the game of baseball?

- ¹ To enjoy baseball, you need to know a few things.
- ² There are nine sections, or *innings*, in a game. During an inning, each team gets a turn to bat and a turn to field.
- ³ When a team is at bat, one player at a time tries to hit the ball. When a player hits the ball, he runs around the bases, trying not to be tagged out by a fielder with the ball. The runner

may stop at first, second, or third base and be “safe.” If he makes it all the way to home base, he scores a run.

- ⁴ If a fielder catches the ball before it bounces, the batter is “out.” If the ball touches the ground, a fielder must get the ball and tag the runner or throw the ball to another fielder who can do so. When three players have made outs, the teams trade places and the game goes on.



1. What did you learn about baseball after you read this article?

2. What happens during an inning?

3. What can a runner do to be safe?

4. Why do you think the author wrote this article?

_____ to give information

_____ to entertain



5. How many innings are there in a game?

6. In paragraph 2, why is the word *innings* written in italics?

7. What does a player have to do to score a run?

8. Read the sentences below. Write **C** next to the *cause* and **E** next to the *effect*.

_____ A fielder catches the ball before it bounces.

_____ The batter is out.