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Read the following selection. Then answer questions 1-14.

The Rules of Basketball

In the game of basketball, the object is for the players on one team to outscore the players on the other team during a certain time period. To do this, the players throw the ball towards and down through an opposing team’s basket. When the opposing team has the ball, the other team’s players try to keep them from scoring.

Trying to score, either underhand or overhand, is called shooting. Teams get points for shots that are good. One point is given for making a free throw from the foul line. Two points are given for making a shot from inside the three-point line, and three points are given for making a shot from outside the three-point line.

In most basketball games, play lasts from forty to forty-eight minutes. Some games are divided into four parts of play known as “quarters.” Some are divided into two parts known as “halves.” The official game clock runs only when the ball is in play. It does not run during the “half-time,” which is a fifteen-minute rest period halfway through the game. There is also a shot clock. It is used to stop one team from keeping the ball away from their opponents. When the shot clock buzzer sounds, the team holding the ball must give it to the opposing team.

When the game starts, players may advance the ball in several ways, which include passing, throwing, dribbling, or by taking shots at the basket. A player may not advance the ball by kicking it, striking it with a closed fist, or hitting it with his head. Dribbling the ball is bouncing it from the floor to the hand while moving forward. A player who moves with the ball without dribbling it will be called for “traveling.” Bouncing the ball with two hands is called “double-dribbling” and is against the rules.

A violation resulting from illegal contact with an opposing player is called a “foul.” After a certain number of fouls have been committed, the opposing team is awarded “free throws.” These are shots taken by a player who stands on the foul line. No other player can try to stop these shots.

Arguing with a referee or fighting with another player can bring a “technical” foul. A coach or a player with two of these is tossed from a game. Hitting someone too hard is called a “flagrant” foul. Players who commit “flagrant” fouls can be tossed out of a game. Sometimes these players are not allowed to play for the rest of the season.

1. This passage is about:
   A. college rules and regulations
   B. professional rules and regulations
   C. basketball rules and regulations
   D. none of the above
The Rules of Basketball

2. Which detail explains half-time?
   A. It’s a fifteen-minute rest period halfway through the game.
   B. It’s a ten-minute rest period after the first quarter.
   C. It’s a twenty-minute rest period halfway through the game.
   D. none of the above

3. What often occurs after a player is fouled?
   A. He or she gets to shoot a free throw.
   B. He or she is sent to the bench.
   C. He or she is tossed out for a flagrant foul.
   D. none of the above

4. What is the difference between a game clock and a shot clock?
   A. The game clock runs only during half-time, and the shot clock runs while the game is in play.
   B. The shot clock runs only when the ball is in play, and the game clock runs throughout the entire game, including time-outs and half-time.
   C. There is no difference between them.
   D. none of the above

5. What happens when a player travels with the ball without dribbling it?
   A. He or she can be called for double-dribbling.
   B. He or she can be called for a flagrant foul.
   C. He or she can be called for traveling.
   D. none of the above

6. What does this passage tell you about the importance of having rules in a game?
   A. Rules are not always fair to both teams.
   B. Rules help the home team and hurt the opposing team.
   C. Rules ensure that all players are treated fairly.
   D. none of the above

7. What can you conclude about flagrant fouls from this passage?
   A. They can cause a player to miss the rest of the season.
   B. They keep the game exciting for the people watching.
   C. People who commit them are not penalized.
   D. none of the above
8. The passage indicates that players throw a ball through "an opposing team's basket." What does opposing mean?
   A. same
   B. concurring
   C. professional
   D. none of the above

9. Why did the author write the second paragraph?
   A. to explain the difference in quarters and half-dollars
   B. to explain the importance of rest in a game
   C. to explain the points given for shooting
   D. none of the above

10. Which is the best summary of this passage?
    A. Defense wins more games than offense.
    B. Some players play dirty, and some don’t.
    C. There are a lot of rules in basketball.
    D. none of the above

11. Which is the BEST place to find out more about basketball rules?
    A. in a school yearbook
    B. in a guide to the game of volleyball
    C. in an essay on sportsmanship
    D. in a book entitled Basketball, the Greatest Game on Earth

12. What is another good title for this passage?
    A. Basketball Players Come from Different Backgrounds
    B. Players and Coaches Should Not Argue with Referees
    C. Basketball is a Sport Played by Only the Best Athletes
    D. none of the above

13. Which detail tells you about a free throw?
    A. It is attempted from the foul line.
    B. A successful free throw adds two points to the score.
    C. It is attempted from outside the three-point line.
    D. none of the above

14. What happens after the game begins?
    A. Players may kick and head-butt the ball.
    B. Players may run with the ball without bouncing it.
    C. Players may throw the ball underhand or overhand.
    D. none of the above
Read the following selection. Then answer questions 15 through 28.

The Growth of the Suburbs

You hear the word “suburb” all of the time, but do you know what it means? The dictionary indicates that a “suburb” is an area outside of a city where people live. The differences between a suburb and a city used to be simple. In cities, people lived in apartments and houses with no yards. In suburbs, there were no apartments, and people lived in houses with yards. This meant cities had more people, and suburbs had more yard space.

That changed in the United States in 1970. That was when more people started living in suburbs than in cities. Since then, numerous apartment houses have been built in the suburbs, and now, lots of people in suburbs have no yard space. Many suburbs have more people than many cities.

People used to work mostly inside the city limits. Schools, businesses, and hospitals were inside the city limits. Houses and farms were outside the city limits. Those areas were called “bedroom communities.” That was because workers went back to them at night to sleep. Soon, schools and shopping centers were built in the suburbs. Today, they also have offices, retail shops, auto dealers, and other businesses.

Workers needed to get to their jobs in the cities, so suburbs were first built near train or trolley tracks. Later, better roads were built, and more people bought cars. Then it became easier to live in the suburbs and drive to work in the cities. Driving to and from the city to work everyday is now called “commuting.”

Today, many suburbs are much larger than the cities they are near. One such suburb is Mesa, Arizona. Mesa began as a suburb of Phoenix, Arizona. It is now larger and has more people than Phoenix. Mesa is larger than lots of big cities in other parts of the United States, and it is still growing!

Some new suburban areas have been planned with their own schools and parks and downtown areas. They have grocery stores, retail shops, and other small businesses so many people can walk to them from their homes. Many people also walk or ride a bus to work nearby, and schools are built nearby, too. The idea is to keep so many cars from filling up the roads. In time, however, these areas may grow as large and crowded as big cities, and they will have the same traffic problems.

15. What is the main topic of the first paragraph?
   A. It talks about dictionaries.
   B. It explains the characteristics of a suburb.
   C. It talks about apartment houses.
   D. none of the above

16. What detail tells about modern suburbs?
   A. They are smaller than they used to be.
   B. They are crowded and dirty.
   C. They are larger than many cities.
   D. none of the above
The Growth of the Suburbs

17. What happened in the United States right after better roads were built?
   A. Trains stopped running.
   B. People bought more cars.
   C. More people had car wrecks.
   D. none of the above

18. According to the passage, how were cities and suburbs once different from each other?
   A. Cities had more people living in them.
   B. Suburbs and cities are the same thing.
   C. Suburbs had more factories.
   D. none of the above

19. What caused “bedroom communities”?
   A. people driving into the suburbs to work
   B. people building homes with more bedrooms
   C. people driving into cities to work
   D. none of the above

20. What can you tell about trains from this passage?
   A. They have a lot of wrecks.
   B. People depended on them before cars.
   C. They cost more than cars to use.
   D. none of the above

21. What can you conclude about the new, planned suburban areas?
   A. People in them use taxi cabs rather than cars.
   B. They have few recreational activities.
   C. Traffic will probably not be a problem in the future.
   D. none of the above

22. Based on its use in this passage, what is the meaning of the word communities?
   A. neighborhoods
   B. counties
   C. states
   D. all of the above
23. Which is more important to the author of this passage?
   A. entertaining the reader
   B. scaring the reader
   C. educating the reader
   D. none of the above

24. What is the best summary of this passage?
   A. Living in the suburbs has grown very popular in the United States.
   B. Everyone is moving back to the cities.
   C. There is a lot of crime in the suburbs.
   D. none of the above

25. Where would you look for directions to the suburban area nearest to you?
   A. in an index
   B. in an atlas
   C. in a car magazine
   D. none of the above

26. How is Phoenix different from Mesa?
   A. Mesa is a suburb; Phoenix is a city.
   B. Phoenix is a suburb; Mesa is a city.
   C. One is in Arizona; the other is not.
   D. none of the above

27. What causes commuting?
   A. driving into town to shop on weekends
   B. too many cars on the road
   C. living in one place and working in another
   D. none of the above

28. What can you infer about traffic problems from this passage?
   A. Suburban planners are trying to prevent them.
   B. They don’t bother anyone.
   C. They don’t happen in more crowded areas.
   D. none of the above
Read the following selection. Then answer questions 29 through 44.

Tracking Teenage Drivers

Do you have an older brother or sister who drives? My sister just started driving, and although I would never tell her, I think she’s a good driver. My dad says she does okay, but numbers from the National Highway Safety Institute say most sixteen-year-olds are not good drivers. They say kids that age crash and die three times more often in car wrecks than all drivers. That’s hard to believe, but I guess they can’t lie about it.

Anyway, all my sister ever wanted was her driver’s license. She didn’t sleep at all the night before she tested for her learner’s permit, and before she tested for her real license, she didn’t sleep for a week! Our parents said they didn’t sleep either, but they also said that was because they were worried. All they could think about was my sister having a wreck.

My sister said she would be careful and wouldn’t act stupid behind the wheel, but that didn’t stop them from worrying. Then our dad told us about some articles he read on helping teens drive safely. One of them talked about in-car video cameras, like the ones they use in school buses. These cameras video everything that happens in the car, so if the driver speeds, runs a stop sign or a red light, or gets into races, the camera videos all of it. Then your parents can watch the video and ground you for life. Cute, huh?

You know those spy satellite systems that follow everything from enemy positions on the battlefield to airplanes at 40,000 feet? Now, some parents use them to track their teen drivers through their cell phones. Parents can tell where you are driving all of the time. So, no more going places you were told not to go!

It only gets worse! If your parents are willing to pay $2,500, they can buy a so-called “black box.” This sends speed and braking information from your car to their home computer. How about being greeted at the front door by an angry parent holding a record of that? They can spy on you for a lot less, too. For example, there’s the Tell-My-Mom.com bumper sticker. The sticker doesn’t do anything, but it lets other drivers report your tag number to a web site. Then your parents can check to see if you’ve been a bad boy or girl behind the wheel.

By this time, my sister was visibly upset. “Next thing I know, you’ll put a nanny cam in my backpack!” she yelled.

“Now, why didn’t I think of that?” my dad said with a big grin.

Anyway, I don’t know about you, but I’m not thrilled to hear about these things. I mean, who knows what they will have to spy on me by the time I get my license? With that in mind, I asked my dad if he was going to put any of those things in any of our cars. At first, he stared straight at my sister and me and said nothing. Finally, he asked, “How
do you know I haven't already?" Then he laughed so hard he could barely get up and leave the room!

Now, I'm desperately hoping someone invents ways to get around these spy tricks before I start driving, and for the first time in my life, I feel very sorry for my sister!

29. This story is mostly about:
   A. helping teenagers be better drivers
   B. spying on your kids
   C. spying on your parents
   D. none of the above

30. Which detail tells you that teenagers are not the best drivers?
   A. articles the narrator’s father read
   B. numbers from the National Highway Safety Institute
   C. facts from insurance companies
   D. none of the above

31. What happened before the narrator’s sister tested for her learner’s permit?
   A. She did not sleep all week.
   B. She partied all night.
   C. She slept very well all week.
   D. none of the above

32. How is Tell-My-Mom.com like the "black box"?
   A. They both cost a lot.
   B. They are both cheap.
   C. They both spy on teen drivers.
   D. all of the above

33. What caused the narrator to feel sorry for his sister?
   A. Their mom grounded his sister.
   B. Their dad grounded his sister.
   C. His sister got a ticket.
   D. none of the above
Tracking Teenage Drivers

34. What can you infer from the passage about the narrator's relationship with his sister?
   A. They fight a lot and don't like each other.
   B. They get along very well.
   C. There is not enough information to answer this question.
   D. all of the above

35. What can you conclude about the narrator's parents?
   A. They mostly ignore their kids.
   B. They want their kids to be safe.
   C. They are too strict on their kids.
   D. none of the above

36. The narrator says he is “desperately hoping...” for something. What does he mean?
   A. He wants it very much.
   B. He doesn't care about it.
   C. He doesn't think he'll get it.
   D. none of the above

37. Why did the author write the first paragraph?
   A. to explain the reason parents want to help teen drivers
   B. to give teens a bad reputation
   C. to show that teens are good drivers
   D. none of the above

38. Which is the best summary of this passage?
   A. Sometimes, everybody feels sorry for a brother or sister.
   B. Sometimes, even fathers laugh at their kids.
   C. Sometimes, it's best to ground a bad, teen driver.
   D. none of the above

39. Where might you find information about bad driving habits?
   A. in an atlas
   B. in a glossary
   C. in a thesaurus
   D. none of the above
40. What conclusion can you draw about the narrator's feelings about someone spying on him when he starts driving?
   A. He can hardly wait to start driving.
   B. He is worried about it.
   C. He doesn't really care one way or the other.
   D. none of the above

41. The narrator talks about "spy satellite systems." What does the word systems mean in the way it is used in the passage?
   A. orderliness
   B. a way of using something
   C. organization
   D. none of the above

42. What is a narrator?
   A. Someone in a story who is bad.
   B. Someone who tells a story.
   C. Someone who likes to read a lot.
   D. none of the above

43. What is the best summary of the fifth paragraph?
   A. Some bumper stickers are humorous.
   B. "Black boxes" give details about car wrecks.
   C. There is more than one way to track teen drivers.
   D. none of the above

44. Where would be the BEST place to find a collection of synonyms?
   A. an atlas
   B. a thesaurus
   C. an index
   D. none of the above

*The Rules of Basketball – 5.9
The Growth of the Suburbs – 5.9
Tracking Teenage Drivers – 5.9*