

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Basketball: Nonfiction Text Answer Key

**Read the following informational text to learn about basketball.**

**Then complete the graphic organizer.**

Basketball is a sport that requires specific talent in order to be successful. It is a team sport that was invented in the late 1800s. A basketball team is made up of athletes who play particular positions. Each position requires certain skills and qualities. The five positions on a basketball team are the: point guard, shooting guard, power forward, center, and small forward.

Typically, the point guard is the leader of the team when on the court. This player must have strong ball-handling skills during the game. A leader on the court must be able to facilitate plays and get the team in position to score points. The best shooter on the team has the title of shooting guard. A shooting guard must have high accuracy when it comes to getting the basketball into the basket. They also must have good ball-handling skills. Two players on the team who must be big are the power forward and the center. These tall players have an important role as they work around the basket and mostly shoot lay-ups. These players do not dribble the ball as much. The small forward is an aggressive player who is quick and strong. One who can perform many different roles on the court plays this position.

A victorious basketball team is one that works together when all five players are on the court communicating and exhibiting their strengths and skills. Not only do basketball players need to have the athletic ability to run, jump, and dribble, but they also need the ability to work together as a team.



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## Answer Key

### Author's Point

Basketball teams are made up of players who have certain skills and play specific positions well together.

#### Reason / Evidence

Each position requires certain skills and qualities. (Paragraph 1)

#### Reason / Evidence

The five positions on a basketball team are the point guard, shooting guard, power forward, center, and small forward. (Paragraph 1)

#### Reason / Evidence

Not only do basketball players need to have the athletic ability to run, jump, and dribble, but they also need the ability to work together as a team. (Paragraph 3)

#### Reason / Evidence

They also must have good ball-handling skills. (Paragraph 2)