Beyond the Score

How sports shape Indiana communities

IS.5.5 "Identify and examine the impact that sports have had on the state of Indiana."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three sports events or changes in the passage. Circle an effect each had on Indiana, then give each event and its matching effect the same number.

More Than a Game in Indiana

1 On a March night in 1954, Milan High School beat Muncie Central for Indiana's boys' basketball state title. Milan was a small town facing a much larger school's team. Newspapers and radio carried the upset far beyond the gym, making Milan a symbol of what a small community could accomplish. The story later helped inspire the 1986 film *Hoosiers*, though the movie changed many details. That win did not give every school equal resources, but it gave people across Indiana a story to share. Basketball became one way residents talked about local pride and the state's identity.

2 Sports can also change how money moves through a place. The first Indianapolis 500 was held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in 1911. Each year, the race draws visitors to the city, where some pay for lodging, meals, and transportation. The event supports work for people who run the track and for businesses serving visitors. Yet a busy race weekend does not guarantee that every neighborhood or worker benefits equally. Traffic and large crowds can create costs for nearby residents and city services. The Speedway's national visibility also links Indiana's name to auto racing, reaching people who have never visited the state.

3 Who gets to play matters as much as who wins. Indiana's first girls' high school basketball state tournament took place in 1976, giving girls a statewide championship that boys had long been able to pursue. A generation later, the Indiana Fever began play in the Women's National Basketball Association in 2000. The Fever won the league championship in 2012. These opportunities gave more athletes a visible path through school sports and professional competition, and gave fans women's teams to follow. Their growth shows that a state's sports traditions can change when institutions make room for athletes once left out.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Milan's 1954 win affect Indiana's sense of identity? Name one limit of that impact.

2. Explain one way the Indianapolis 500 affects local businesses and one way it can create a cost.

3. How did the girls' state tournament and the Indiana Fever change opportunities in Indiana sports?

4. Compare how Milan's win and the Indianapolis 500 shaped Indiana's reputation. What was different about each impact?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Suppose your Indiana town is deciding whether to fund a free, coed youth basketball league. Write one paragraph recommending a decision. Predict two different effects on your town, explain one possible cost or limit, and use evidence from two different paragraphs of the passage to support your reasoning.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three sports events or changes in the passage. Circle an effect each had on Indiana, then give each event and its matching effect the same number. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Milan's 1954 win affect Indiana's sense of identity? Name one limit of that impact.	**It gave people across Indiana a shared story of small-town achievement and pride, but it did not give every school equal resources.**
2	Explain one way the Indianapolis 500 affects local businesses and one way it can create a cost.	**Visitors spend money on lodging, meals, or transportation. Traffic and crowds can create costs for nearby residents or city services.**
3	How did the girls' state tournament and the Indiana Fever change opportunities in Indiana sports?	**The tournament gave girls a statewide championship, while the Fever provided a visible professional team and a path for athletes to pursue.**
4	Compare how Milan's win and the Indianapolis 500 shaped Indiana's reputation. What was different about each impact?	**Milan's win became a story of small-town achievement that residents shared. The Indianapolis 500 made Indiana known nationally for auto racing, including among people who had never visited.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would fund the league because free registration could let more students play, including those whose families cannot pay fees. Indiana's first girls' state tournament shows how changing access can open opportunities for athletes. The league could also bring neighbors together around teams, as Milan's win gave residents a shared story and local pride. The town would still need to pay for gym time and equipment, and a free league would not help students who cannot get to practices. I would reserve some funding for transportation.

Accept other passage-supported effects and limits. For the final task, look for two distinct predictions about the proposed league, one cost or limit, and evidence from two different passage paragraphs.