

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow : Question 1-7

Concussions are brain injuries that occur when a person receives a blow to the head, face, or neck. Although most people who suffer a concussion experience initial bouts of dizziness, nausea, and drowsiness, these symptoms often disappear after a few days. The long-term effects of concussions, however, are less understood and far more severe.

Recent studies suggest that people who suffer multiple concussions are at significant risk for developing chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a degenerative brain disorder that causes a variety of dangerous mental and emotional problems to arise weeks, months, or even years after the initial injury. These psychological problems can include depression, anxiety, memory loss, inability to concentrate, and aggression. In extreme cases, people suffering from CTE have even committed suicide or homicide. The majority of people who develop these issues are athletes who participate in popular high-impact sports, especially football. Although new sports regulations and improvements in helmet technology can help protect players, amateur leagues, the sports media, and fans all bear some of the responsibility for reducing the incidence of these devastating injuries. Improvements in diagnostic technology have provided substantial evidence to link severe and often fatal psychological disorders to the head injuries that players receive while on the field.

Recent autopsies performed on the brains of football players who have committed suicide have shown advanced cases of CTE in every single victim. In response to the growing understanding of this danger, the National Football League (NFL) has revised its safety regulations. Players who have suffered a head injury on the field must undergo a concussion sideline assessment a series of mental and physical fitness tests before being allowed back in the game.

In an effort to diminish the amount of head and neck injuries on the field, NFL officials began enforcing stricter penalty calls for helmet-to-helmet contact, leading with the head, and hitting a defenseless player. Furthermore, as of 2010, if a player's helmet is accidentally wrenched from his head during play, the ball is immediately whistled dead. It is hoped that these new regulations, coupled with advances in helmet design, will reduce the number of concussions, and thus curb further cases of CTE. Efforts by the NFL and other professional sports leagues are certainly laudable; we should commend every attempt to protect the mental and physical health of players. However, new regulations at the professional level cannot protect amateur players, especially young people.

Fatal cases of CTE have been reported in victims as young as 21. Proper tackling form using the arms and shoulders to aim for a player's midsection should be taught at an early age. Youth, high school, and college leagues should also adopt safety rules even more stringent than those of the NFL. Furthermore, young athletes should be educated about the serious dangers of head injuries at an early age. Perhaps the most important factor in reducing the number of traumatic brain injuries, however, lies not with the players, the coaches, or the administrators, but with the media and fans.

Sports media producers have become accustomed to showcasing the most aggressive tackles and the most intense plays. NFL broadcasts often replay especially violent collisions while the commentators marvel at the player's physical prowess. Some sports highlights television programs even feature weekly countdowns of the hardest hits. When the media exalts such dangerous behavior, professionals are rewarded for injuring each other on the field and amateurs become more likely to try to imitate their favorite NFL athletes. Announcers, commentators, television producers, and sportswriters should engage in a collective effort to cease glorifying brutal plays. In turn, fans should stop expecting their favorite players to put their lives on the line for the purposes of entertainment. Players must not be

encouraged to trade their careers, their health, their happiness, and even their lives for the sake of a game.

Q1. In the final paragraph, the author mentions sports highlights television programs as an example of how

- I. the media glorifies violence
- II. amateurs learn to mimic professional athletes
- III. professional athletes gain approval

- (a) II only
- (b) I only
- (c) Both I & II
- (d) None of the above

Q2. In describing the sports media, the author emphasizes its

- (a) entertainment value
- (b) senselessness
- (c) danger
- (d) responsibility

Q3. As used in the final paragraph, which is the best antonym for exalts?

- (a) venerates
- (b) mollifies
- (c) mitigates
- (d) expedites

Q4. The author's tone in the final paragraph can best be described as

- (a) remorseful
- (b) hopeless
- (c) perplexed
- (d) insistent

Q5. As used in paragraph 3, which is the best synonym for laudable?

- (a) praiseworthy
- (b) ineffectual
- (c) memorable
- (d) audacious

Q6. According to the passage, which of the following factors contribute(s) to the incidence of CTE in amateur players?

- I. inconsistent application of safety regulations for all levels
- II. lack of education about the dangers of head injuries
- III. amateur players' desire to emulate professionals

- (a) II only
- (b) I only
- (c) Both I & II
- (d) None of the above

Q7. Based on information in the passage, it can be inferred that all of the following statements are true except

- (a) tackling is not always dangerous; however, players who use improper tackling form may injure others
- (b) scientists have established a definitive link between players who die untimely deaths and the onset of CTE
- (c) NFL officials have done little to address the problem of CTE
- (d) athletes who are praised for exceptionally brutal hits are likely to continue engaging in such dangerous behavior

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow : Question 8-10

The ravages [of the storm] were terrible in America, Europe, and Asia. Towns were overthrown, forests uprooted, coasts devastated by the mountains of water which were precipitated on them, vessels cast on the shore, whole districts leveled by waterspouts, several thousand people crushed on land or drowned at sea; such were the traces of its (468) _____, left by this devastating tempest.

Q8. Which word, if inserted in the blank, makes the most sense in the context of the passage?

- (a) Velocity
- (b) Fury
- (c) reward
- (d) benevolence

Q9. What is the meaning of the word leveled as it is used in the passage?

- (a) razed
- (b) marked
- (c) spread
- (d) raised

Q10. What is the meaning of the word over throwing the context of this passage?

- (a) surrendered
- (b) devastated
- (c) capitulated
- (d) Yielded

Solutions

- S1. Ans. (b)
- S2. Ans. (d)
- S3. Ans. (c)
- S4. Ans. (d)
- S5. Ans. (a)
- S6. Ans. (c)
- S7. Ans. (c)
- S8. Ans. (b)
- S9. Ans. (a)
- S10. Ans. (b)

BANKERS