BTS 8 – EOT 3 – Exam Practice

A) Read the passage and choose the best answer a, b, c or d.

Baseball Fans Around the World

Baseball is a very popular sport in Asia, North America, South America, and even Europe. While the rules of baseball are similar from country to country, the behavior of baseball fans is very different. Here's a look at some of the differences in fan behavior around the world.

In Japan, baseball fans are really loud. The sound of chants, cheering, drums, and trumpets continues nonstop throughout a baseball game. When a team goes to bat, their fans sing a different song for each batter at the plate. And even when their team is losing badly, Japanese fans continue to yell and scream. Foreign baseball players in Japan are often surprised that the fans never boo a player. According to the American pitcher Brian Warren, baseball is more fun in Japan. «When I used to play in Venezuela;' Warren said, «fans threw things at me when I didn't pitch well: This never happens in Japan.

When a Japanese player hits a home run, the fans give the biggest cheer of all-a banzai cheer. That's when the fans yell with both of their arms above their heads.

In Korea, baseball fans are just as loud as the fans in Japan. Many fans use thundersticks to cheer their team on. Thundersticks are long plastic tubes that come in pairs. A fan hits the two thundersticks together to make a loud noise, encouraging their favorite players (or distracting the team they don't like). Cheerleaders are also a big part of baseball games in Korea. They lead the fans in songs, chants, and dances. When a player does well, the cheerleaders and the fans celebrate by doing a special dance created just for that player.

In the United States, Asian visitors are often surprised and disappointed by how quiet American baseball fans are. "When I went to a baseball game in San Francisco, everybody was just sitting there watching the game. It was kind of boring;' says Barry Iwasa, a Japanese student at the University of California, Berkeley. "Baseball was invented in the United States:' Iwasa says, "but Americans don't seem very excited about their game:'

It's true. Baseball fans in the United States are some of the quietest in the world. It's common to see baseball fans eating hot dogs and popcorn, and chatting with friends. "When I go to a baseball game;' says Ginger Hanson from San Francisco, "I want to have fun with friends and catch up on their lives. The real reason I go is for the social experience:'

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Like the fans in Japan, the fans in the Dominican Republic cheer loudly throughout the game. They also sing and dance! Since music and dancing are an important part of Dominican culture, you might even find a merengue band moving through the stands at a baseball game.

Despite the music and dancing, many Dominican fans are very serious about baseball. Carol Parmenter, an American living in the Dominican Republic, says, 'At Dominican games, you see groups of men drinking small cups of sweet coffee, carefully analysing every pitch, every hit, every play. American fans don't usually follow the game that closely:'

Questions:

1- The article is mainly about .....

a) the rules for playing baseball

b) the way baseball fans act around the world

c) how to become a baseball player in different countries

2- Baseball fans are noisy in every country except .....

a) Japan. b) the United States. c) the Dominican Republic.

3- ..... are an important part of baseball games in Korea.

a) Hot dogs b) Cheerleaders c) Trumpets

4- Baseball fans in ..... don't follow the game very closely.

a) Japan b) the United States c) Venezuela

5- In paragraph 2 (lines 6- 14), Brian Warren probably.....

a) has played baseball in Japan

b) likes playing baseball in Venezuela best

c) always booed the other players

6- The writer's purpose in writing this article was to .....

a) inform and entertain

b) persuade and entertain

c) persuade and inform

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