Sports are a huge part of the lives of many Americans. The World Series, the Super bowl and the Olympics are some of the most widely watched television programming. When people use sports expressions to describe something that has nothing to do with sports, for example, describing doing well on a test as “a slam dunk,” they are making an analogy. In this instance, they are assigning the qualities and significance of a slam dunk in basketball to doing well on the test.

**DIRECTIONS**: Briefly explain the meaning of each of the following sports analogies.

1. Keep your eye on the ball.

2. Monday morning quarterback.

3. That was a hole in one.

4. They don’t pull any punches.

5. You dropped the ball.

6. Step up to the plate.

7. They want to play hardball.