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ELA/Literacy
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Grade 8
Research Simulation Task
Relationship Between the Video and Texts
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Reading Comprehension & Written Expression
Practice Set

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P1-1a

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Baseball is something that everyone takes for granted. Going to the stadium on a cool summer day with friends to watch the players play is an unparalleled experience. One forgets that years ago, there were women playing down in the field in a women's baseball league. These leagues were started as early as the nineteenth century but died out by the nineteen fifties. The video from *Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career*, the article "Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866", and the passage from *The Belles of Baseball: The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League* all remember these teams and players and the league they were in. They use different methods to share information in different ways.

Firstly, the visuals from the video help the listener gather more information. Wilma Briggs the narrator, shows the types of pitches that there were. She shows that at the beginning of the league "The pitching was underhand and it was.. the windmill" (1:55, Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career). In an article or a book, the author or writer could explain the pitch, but through the visual, it makes it easier to understand and picture in one's head. Briggs also demonstrated a replica of the uniforms that they had to wear and how they would do certain things in them. "If you would really slide at top speed, you don't get hurt" (2:50, Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career). Seeing the uniforms is much better than visualizing them because you can visualize them wrong. The reader also gets a first hand account on what it was like to wear the uniforms and do certain sporty actions in them.

Secondly, though the visuals from the *Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career* help the listener understand her past experiences, the passage from *The Belles of Baseball* uses chronological order to establish a timeline and facts. It starts off with "in 1943... the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League" was formed (paragraph 1, *The Belles of Baseball*). This format works with this passage because of the information presented. The author includes details about the war that was going along parallel to the forming and playing of the league. Within the chronological order, many statistics and facts can be tied to dates. During the twelve seasons, "more than 550 women ballplayers' were recruited (paragraph 2, *The Belles of Baseball*). This is very different to the personal account from the video because it is not first hand in the way that it does not share a player's experience first hand and only shares what the public would be able to see.

In addition to those medias, the passage from *The Belles of the Ball* and the video *Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career*, the article "Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866" uses a chronological order similar to that of *The Belles of the Ball* to

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present the information. Although this does not have details about the war going on at the time or about the personal stories that the other medias do, it does include a history of before the league began and talks more about the backgrounds of the girls. Rather than talk about the baseball league, it talks about the history of women in the sport. The author explains the fact that teams "date to as early as 1866" and that it became very "popular in the late 1890s" for women's baseball teams to play (paragraph 3, Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866). It provides different information than the other forms of media through the same chronological form as *The Bells of Baseball*.

Finally, all these media share information about the women in baseball. *The Belles of Baseball* and the video *Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career* both talk about the league for women that was formed and ended after the second world war while "Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866" talks about the history of women in the game. The visuals that existed in the video helped the reader understand more about the people playing the game than the facts and numbers from the passage of the book. The article chose not to talk about the people in the league but rather about the "Bloomer Girls" that played before them (passage 3, Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866).

In conclusion, all three forms of media provided different information in different, but similar forms. While not all covering the same subtopics, the discussion of women in baseball was shared effectively and educationally in the article "Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866", the passage from *The Bells of Baseball*, and the video *Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career*. For now, women can watch baseball but not play it professionally since the league closed years ago. Next time one visits the stadium, one should think about the girls that played there many years ago and what they would have thought about the game that one is watching.

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In the articles and video they talk about womens baseball and how it began or how it was like. The visual information presented adds to an understanding because you can see how everything was and how it changed over time.

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The relationship between the video and the article "Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866" is somewhat simple, both are trying to convey information about the womens baseball teams. This is proved in mulitpule points in the video especially when Wilma talks about the size change in balls as the years progressed, stating that they were getting smaller. This is also stated in the first passage. Another thing to note is the similarity between uniform talks. Wilma talks about how they wore skirts and sometimes trousers while the first passage states "they were dubbed Bloomer Girls for the baggy Turkish-style trousers they'd wear." In "The Belles of Baseball" quite a bit of sequencing and facts are put into play including a timeline at the bottom of the passage, their aren't many specific items in common with the second passage and Wilma's video except that they both speak about the life of baseball players and pitching styles. In the video Wilma physically demonstrates how to throw different pitches and in the article states "picthers were required to throw sidearm," thus proving aa connection between different styles and requirements as spoken about by Wilma. In conclusion the visual information presented in the video gives viewers an idea of pitching style, ball size, and uniforms.

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The two articles and video all relate to each other but all kinda tell different stories about the Womens Baseball League. The video is almost like a interview because a former baseball player that played in AAGPBL tells her story about being on that team and all the changes they have made to womens baseball. In the articles they state more information about the league and what you could and could not do. The video really helped me understand the what the articles were saying about the new rules, uniforms, baseball sizes, ect. I liked watching the video more because it gave me a better examples and a better understanding on the AAGPBL and what it was. Both articles were informative and I learned alot from reading both of them.

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Women's baseball has been around for a long time. In the three sources, "**Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866**", "**The Belles of Baseball**", and "**Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career**", a lot of information is provided about the history of women's baseball. These three sources are connected because they not only provide a timeline in women's baseball, but they also provide how the rules of baseball changed throughout its history.

To begin with, these sources provide a timeline in women's baseball. The article "**Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866**", provides information about the earliest unofficial women's baseball league. It talks about how the league played as well as how it died out. The second article, "**The Belles of Baseball**", talks about how baseball begins again for women. It explains how the new league works and continues with the time line of how women's baseball worked by saying how the league ended. The video, "**Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career**", helps make the information come together by sharing the experiences of one of the players themselves. The video brings into light what it was actually like to be playing in the timeframe that the second article discussed. As you can see, one way the sources were connected was by showing the timeline of women's baseball.

Secondly, the sources give an idea of how the rules of women's baseball changed. The first article, "**Amateur Women's Baseball Teams Existed as Early as 1866**", talks about how the original Bloomer Girls didn't only play against women. They were known to play against local men's baseball teams which was not done in the later AAGPBL. In the second article, "**The Belles of Baseball**", they talk a lot about how the pitching style allowed changes. They were originally only pitching underhand, and it changed to overhand pitching. They also talk about the size of the ball changing a lot. The video, "**Wilma Briggs reminisces about her baseball career**", provides a better understanding of how the rules changed by showing the different sizes of balls the girls played with. This give a better picture of one way that the rules evolved. So, the three sources provide an idea of how women's baseball changed.

In conclusion, the three sources of information ultimately are connected by the description they give of the timeline of women's baseball, and the description of the changing rules in women's baseball. The articles are connected by the facts they bring and the video helps the viewer to better ultimately understand what it was like to be a female baseball player back in that time frame. It also provides a better understanding of how rules changed by showing balls before and after the rules were altered.