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Unit 17 PRETEST

PART 1

Choose the correct words to complete the report.

Every year in the United States, many Americans watch the World Series. **(1) Many people / Much people / A lot of peoples** consider baseball to be the nation's pastime, and the most exciting part of baseball season is the final series of games for the championship. In fact, **(2) some baseball fan / some baseball fans / several baseball fan** even regard the World Series as the best part of the year. Since the World Series only involves teams from the United States and one team from Canada, a lot of people wonder why the **(3) winners / several winners / many winners** are called "world champions." The reason is because in 1884, **(4) a little / a few / few** newspaper reporters wrote that the winning team members were world champions, and the name stuck. There are two sets of teams in professional baseball in the United States: the American League and the National League. The World Series is a **(5) few series / many series / series** of seven games between the best team in the American League and the best team in the National League. The team that wins four games wins the championship. A few teams have won **(6) some time / a great deal of time / several times** at the World Series championships. The New York Yankees have won 26 times, and the St. Louis Cardinals and the Oakland A's have each won nine times. Eight teams haven't won **(7) some / a few / any** World Series championships at all.

PART 2

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup soccer tournament is the most important international sporting event ever. **(1) A great deal / A lot / Many** of people around the globe enjoy watching it, either in person or on television. French football administrators first had the idea for the World Cup in the early part of the 20th century. They wanted to bring **(2) several / a little of / enough** national championship soccer teams together to compete for a world championship. The first competition was in Uruguay in 1930, followed by competitions in 1934 and 1938 (the championship games of the World Cup occur every four years.) But then there were **(3) any / a few / a little** years when there weren't **(4) some / few / any** World Cup games because of World War II. The competition began again in 1950. Since then, the games have taken place in **(5) many / much / a lot** countries from Europe, the Americas and Asia. **(6) Little / Several / The enough** teams have participated in the tournaments since the first one in 1930. In all these

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tournaments, there have only been seven different champions. However, **(7) much / any / a few** times there have been **(8) 0 / any / enough** defeats that were surprising to **(9) much / many / a great deals of** viewers, such as Cameroon's first-round defeat of the Argentinean champions during the first game of the 1990 World Cup series.