



**End-of-Year Assessment**  
**Grade 5 Reading**































































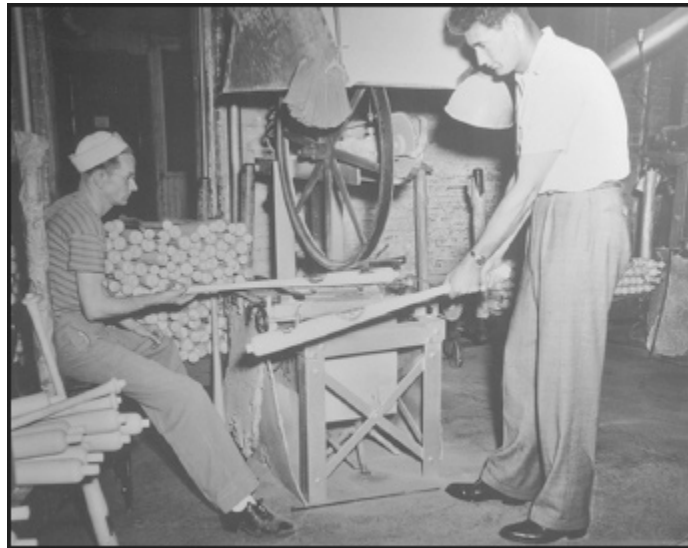








talented workers then crafted the bats according to each player's description. The players knew exactly how they wanted their bats designed. Williams once complained that the handles on his bats didn't feel right. When workers measured the bats, they found out he was correct. The handles were too narrow—by 5/1000 of an inch!



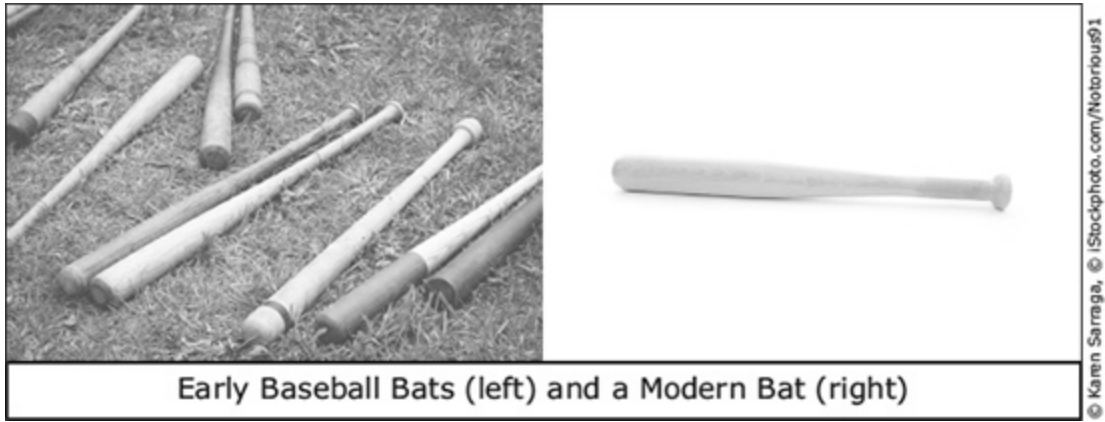
Ted Williams inspects a baseball bat.

© Courtesy Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory

- 7 Professional athletes have grown accustomed to using the same equipment in games and in practice. They know that even a slight change in the proportions of a baseball bat can hurt a player's performance in a game. Professional baseball players spend much time and effort to ensure they are using equipment that is the right size.

### **Old and New**

- 8 In the early days of baseball, bats varied in size and shape. They were made with any kind of wood that was available. Most of today's bats are made from two kinds of wood: maple and ash. Maple is harder than ash, so a bat made from maple can strike the ball with more force than a bat made from ash. Ash is lighter than maple, so a bat made from ash can be swung faster. The shape of today's baseball bats is also more regular—narrow at the handle and wide at the end.
- 9 Although the basic design of today's professional bats is similar, it is up to each player to find the bat that works best. Several factors are important for a player to consider. Bats come in different lengths and weights. The barrel diameter, or the distance around the top of the bat, also varies. And then there are the different types of wood to choose from. The best way for baseball players to find the bat that will most enhance their game is to try several bats and see which one feels right.
- 10 Baseball bats have changed a great deal over the years. Players now have more choices when selecting a bat. But one thing remains constant: the opportunity for players to perform at their best, thanks to the great designs offered by Hillerich & Bradsby Company and its Louisville Slugger.



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- 33.** The reader can conclude that when Hillerich first asked his father to make wood bats, Hillerich’s father —
- A.** planned to change his business by making only wood bats
  - B.** believed metal bats would sell better than wood bats
  - C.** wanted to sell his company rather than make wood bats
  - D.** thought his company would not benefit from making wood bats

34. In paragraph 6, the details about Ted Williams’s experience with Louisville Slugger bats support the idea that —
- A. professional athletes can notice slight differences in equipment
  - B. Louisville Sluggers are not the best bats available to professional baseball players
  - C. negative comments about a product can harm a company’s business
  - D. Louisville Sluggers are better designed today than when they were first made
35. Which sentence best states the main idea of the section titled “Old and New”?
- A. *They were made with any kind of wood that was available.*
  - B. *The shape of today’s baseball bats is also more regular—narrow at the handle and wide at the end.*
  - C. *Bats come in different lengths and weights.*
  - D. *Baseball bats have changed a great deal over the years.*
36. What is the meaning of accustomed in paragraph 7?
- A. Managed by
  - B. Different from
  - C. Changed by
  - D. In the habit of

- 37.** The reader can infer that one of the main reasons the production of Louisville Sluggers began was because of Hillerich's —
- A.** willingness to use his knowledge of woodworking to help someone
  - B.** understanding of the game of baseball
  - C.** ability to promote a product using a variety of advertising
  - D.** experience playing baseball with a metal bat
- 38.** Based on information in the selection, what is one similarity between Pete Browning and Honus Wagner?
- A.** Their success encouraged other players to use Louisville Sluggers.
  - B.** They both ordered a wood bat that was not made correctly.
  - C.** Their friendship with Hillerich helped improve their batting skills.
  - D.** They both persuaded Hillerich's father to make Louisville Sluggers.







