

Name _____

Baseball Positions and Player Roles: The Building Blocks of the Game

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary, but a scenario might involve a ground ball hit to the second baseman with a runner on first base, requiring quick reflexes to field the ball, tag the runner, and make a throw to first base to complete a double play.
2. A catcher faces the challenge of handling fast pitches, preventing wild pitches, throwing out potential base stealers, and providing guidance to the pitcher. They also need to manage the pitcher's strategy and call pitches.
3. A leadoff hitter's performance can set a positive tone for the team by getting on base and potentially scoring runs early in the game. This can boost the team's confidence and momentum.
4. The role of a closer is challenging because they are often brought in during high-pressure situations with the game on the line. They must maintain composure, execute pitches, and secure the victory, all while facing tough hitters.

