

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Cracking the Code: Important Baseball Statistics Explained

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Player A, with a batting average of .320, has a higher batting average than Player B, who has a batting average of .280. This suggests that Player A is more consistent and successful in getting hits compared to Player B. In general, a higher batting average indicates better hitting abilities.
2. A low ERA is significant for a pitcher because it reflects their effectiveness at preventing the opposing team from scoring runs. A pitcher with a low ERA is often considered one of the best in the league, as they consistently keep their team in games and give them a chance to win. It shows that the pitcher is not giving up many earned runs per inning pitched.
3. Considering both hits and walks when calculating OBP is important because it provides a more comprehensive picture of a player's offensive contribution. Hits reflect a player's ability to make contact with the ball, while walks demonstrate their patience and ability to get on base without making an out. A high OBP benefits a team because it means the player consistently reaches base, giving their team more opportunities to score runs.
4. A player with a high SLG is known for power hitting and the ability to hit for extra bases. For example, a player who hits home runs or triples contributes more to their SLG than a player who primarily hits singles. A high SLG suggests that a player has the potential to produce big hits that can lead to multiple runs.

