

Casey At the Bat
by Ernest L. Thayer

Name: _____
Date: _____

Comprehension Worksheet

Directions: Complete each section as you read through the poem *Casey At the Bat* .

Complete questions #1 - #7 after reading the *first* stanza.

1. What sport are the Mudville nine playing? _____
2. How many innings were already played? _____
3. What was the score? _____
4. Was the Mudville team winning or losing? _____
5. What does it mean when it says that Cooney 'died' at first? _____
6. Was Barrows out or safe at first? _____
7. How many outs are there? _____

Complete questions #8 - #10 after reading the *second* and *third* stanza.

8. Why did a few fans leave before the very end of the game? _____

9. Who was up to bat before Casey? _____
10. Did the fans have any confidence in Flynn's or Jimmy Blake's ability? How do you know?

Complete questions #11 - #14 after reading the *fourth* stanza.

11. What base did Flynn reach after he batted? _____
12. What does 'tore the cover off the ball' mean? _____
13. Which bases were the players on? _____
14. What does 'a-hugging third' mean? _____

Complete questions #15 & #16 after reading the *fifth* stanza.

15. How many fans were still at the game? _____
16. How do we know the fans had confidence in Casey's ability? _____

Complete question # 17 after reading the *sixth* and *seventh* stanza.

17. How did Casey feel about his own ability? How do we know? _____

Complete questions #18 - #21 after reading the *eighth* and *ninth* stanza.

18. What is the leather-covered sphere? _____

19. Did Casey swing at the first pitch? _____

20. Did the umpire call the pitch a ball or a strike?

21. How did the crowd react to the umpire's call? _____

Complete questions #22 - # 26 after reading the *tenth* and *eleventh* stanza.

22. Who calmed the crowd? _____

23. Did Casey swing at the second pitch? _____

24. What did the umpire call the second pitch?

25. How did the crowd react to the umpire's call? _____

26. What made the crowd calm down? _____

Complete question # 27 - # 28 after reading the *twelfth* stanza.

27. What emotion is Casey displaying now that he has two strikes? _____

28. Does Casey swing at the third pitch? _____

Complete questions 29 - 31 after reading the *thirteenth* stanza.

29. Does Casey hit the ball? _____

30. What country is it referring to when the author uses 'favored land'? _____

31. Is this a national event or a local event? How do you know? _____
