

Close-Reading Questions

"Deadly Hits"

1. In the introduction, how does author Lauren Tarshis help you understand that a concussion is a serious injury? (author's craft, imagery)
2. On page 6, Tarshis describes Zack's brain as a "ticking time bomb." What kind of figurative language is she using? What purpose does it serve? (figurative language)
3. Why did Zack's coach allow Zack to re-enter the game after he hit his head the first time? (key ideas)

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Critical-Thinking Questions

"Deadly Hits"

1. Drawing on information from the article and your own ideas, explain why young athletes today might choose to play football despite the fact that the game can be dangerous.
2. On page 6, Tarshis writes, "Sportscasters ran highlight reels that celebrated the most brutal hits of the week in college and professional football." Why do you think sportscasters stopped doing this?