S028 Motivating Student Learning Through Sports-Related Math Questions

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Here is a sample of some of the questions that I have used to motivate student learning.

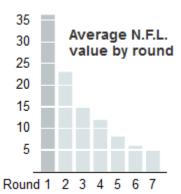
- 1. In 2009, Usain Bolt ran 100 meters in 9.58 seconds. How many miles per hour did he average on his run? Hint: There are 1609.34 meters in one mile.
- 2. In 2012, Sarah, a cheetah at the Cincinnati zoo, ran 100 meters in 5.95 seconds. How many miles per hour did the cheetah average on her run?
- 3. In 2009, Usain Bolt ran 100 meters in 9.58 seconds. A snail can "run" about 0.007 mph. How fast can a snail "run" 100 meters?

Hint: There are 1609.34 meters in one mile.

4. Find the missing subscores in a game of bowling:

1 2		2	3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		
Х		X	8	1		X	6	3	5	3		X		X	5	3	X	X	X

- 5. We know that Michael Jordan took 555 3P shots in his career in Chicago. Now suppose that we guess that Michael would play for 2 more years in Washington. Predict the total number of 3P shots made.
- 6. You are in a gym watching a very good player practicing. This player is 5 feet 11 inches. Is it more likely that this is a WNBA player or a NBA player?
- 7. What are some interesting questions that you can ask given the following data?



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World's #1 Starting Pitcher Rankings: 10/29/2016							
Rank	Name	Score					
1	Clayton Kershaw	603.1					
2	Max Scherzer	589.3					
3	Corey Kluber	581.1					
4	Madison Bumgarner	572.2					
5	Jon Lester	570.5					

http://www.billjamesonline.com/