

Hal watched Chi, the new kid, sitting by himself during recess. It was the middle of the school year, and Hal suspected Chi was feeling nervous on his first day. Chi was staring down at the ground shyly, drawing circles in the dirt with his shoe. It wasn't easy being the new kid.

Hal had once been the new kid in school, and he recalled how his first day had felt like a month. He thought it would never end, until a boy named Jake had approached him and asked him if he liked baseball. Now Jake was Hal's best friend. Maybe Chi needed someone to make him feel as welcome as Jake had made Hal feel.

When it was time to choose kickball teams, Hal said, "I want Chi on my team." Chi glanced up with a confused look on his face. He pointed to himself as if to say, "Me?" Hal nodded, and Chi ran over, grinning widely.

Hal said, "You kick first, Chi, so we can see what you can do."

When Chi kicked the ball, it went soaring across the playground. He rounded the bases and scored the first run of the game. The other kids cheered and congratulated Chi, and Hal gave him a high five. "Terrific kick, Chi!" Hal said. "Welcome to our school!"



1. Chi felt _____ on his first day at a new school.

- (A) nervous
- (B) excited
- (C) bored

Circle the phrase that helped you answer the question.

2. Jake made Hal feel welcome by talking to him about _____.

- (A) kickball
- (B) baseball
- (C) football

Underline the phrase where you found the answer.

3. In this story, **soar** means _____.

- (A) to score
- (B) to be painful
- (C) to fly through the air

4. What type of story is this?

- (A) legend
- (B) realistic fiction
- (C) fantasy

5. Why did Hal choose Chi to be on his team? Support your answer with details.
