



Read the sports story carefully. Then answer each question below in a full sentence.

Look for the cause — what happened first — and the effect — what happened because of it. Trace the chain of events from start to finish.

Curry's Playoff Buzzer-Beater



"No way he makes that!" yelled a fan in the stands, as Stephen Curry dribbled past half-court with the clock ticking down. The Golden State Warriors were tied with the Boston Celtics, 108-108, in Game 4 of the Western Conference Finals. The series was already a nail-biter at 2-1, and this game was critical for momentum. Curry, known for his incredible range, pulled up from almost 30 feet, a defender draped all over him. The ball swished through the net with 0.7 seconds left! 🏀 The crowd erupted.

Because of that impossible shot, the Warriors snatched a dramatic 111-108 victory, taking a commanding 3-1 lead in the series. The Celtics, visibly deflated, struggled to regroup for Game 5. Their coach admitted in the post-game press conference that Curry's shot had "changed everything."

The next morning, sports radio and social media were buzzing. Analysts debated whether this shot cemented Curry's status as the greatest shooter ever. Young fans, watching replays on their phones, immediately headed to local courts, trying to mimic his deep-range heroics. ✨

This sudden surge of excitement translated into record-breaking merchandise sales for the Warriors, especially jerseys with Curry's number 30. The team's social media engagement skyrocketed, drawing new followers from around the globe.

Ultimately, the Warriors carried that momentum, closing out the series in Game 6 and advancing to the NBA Finals. The city of San Francisco celebrated, and the league saw a



significant boost in viewership and interest, all sparked by one incredible, game-changing shot.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Which of these BEST explains why the Warriors' Game 4 victory was so important? Circle the correct answer.

- A** It was the first game of the series.
- B** It secured a crucial 3-1 lead in the Western Conference Finals.
- C** It meant they automatically won the championship.
- D** It was their coach's birthday.

(2) Complete the sentence: Because Stephen Curry hit the impossible shot, _____, leading to record-breaking merchandise sales.

— continue writing on the lines below

(3) What was an immediate effect on the Boston Celtics after Curry's game-winning shot?

(4) Describe how Stephen Curry's shot led to increased merchandise sales and then to the Warriors advancing to the NBA Finals.



(5) What might have happened if Stephen Curry's shot had missed the net? Explain.

(6) How did young aspiring basketball players react to seeing Stephen Curry's shot?

