

Joining the Team

Marco Juarez had just moved to Illinois from Mexico. It was his **first** day at school. Marco did not know English too well, so he did not feel confident at making new friends. At lunch Matt and Sam started up a conversation with Marco.

“Hi, my name is Matt. This is my friend Sam,” said Matt.

Marco smiled. He was shy and nervous. “I’m Marco,” he whispered. Then Matt had a great idea.

“Hey Marco, we need a center for our 5th grade basketball team. Do you want to play on the team?” he asked.

Marco did not feel very confident about sports. He told the boys that he did not know how to play very well. Sam and Matt convinced him to come to practice after school.

In the gym Marco stood quietly watching the boys play.

“Come on,” Sam said encouragingly. “Give it a try.” Sam and Matt demonstrated to Marco how to stand under the basket and bank the ball off the backboard into the hoop. They showed him and then they asked him to try it. Shooting the ball felt really very awkward to Marco at first, but Sam and Matt were encouraging.

“Try it again,” they said.

Soon, with their instruction, Marco began to get the hang of it. He reached up and aimed at the very, exact same spot each time and the ball bounced neatly into the hoop.



When it was time for the team to play their first game, Marco made five baskets as the team’s center. It was different playing with the other team guarding him, but Marco enjoyed it. His Dad enjoyed it too he cheered from the crowd.

“Do you like playing basketball,” Sam asked Marco after the game.

“I do,” Marco said.

“See,” Sam said with a smile. “I told you, you’d be good?”











“Thanks,” Marco said, smiling back. “Could it be because I had a good teacher?”

Revising Marks			
Take Out		Uppercase letter	≡
Add	^	Lowercase letter	/
Period	⊙	New paragraph	¶
Move			

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Proofreading Marks			
Take Out		Uppercase letter	
Add		Lowercase letter	
Period		New paragraph	
Check spelling		Insert quotes	
Insert space		Insert apostrophe	

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