

Standing at the Foul Line

There are only 55 seconds left on the scoreboard
 And the game is tied.
 I concentrate and try to clear my mind,
 But I am worried I might miss.

I dribble the ball
 Taking time to breathe and relax
 I arch my hands and lift the ball
 Sinking the first shot swish right through the net.

I have one more shot to go,
 Can I make it a two-point game?
 I lean forward and repeat the same steps
 And then,
 I make it once again.

Who will win the game now?

By Kim Yaccarino

1. Why is the narrator worried in the first stanza of the poem?
 - A. The player is tired after the long game.
 - B. The game is tied and she is worried she might miss.
 - C. The other team is going to win.
 - D. The player knows she can't shoot the ball well.

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2. The word *concentrate*, as it is used in this poem, means
 - A. Think about what happened during the day.
 - B. Watch what the other players are doing.
 - C. Listen to what the players are saying.
 - D. Focus on what you are doing.

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