Jalen Hurts and DeVonta Smith Steal Nashville's Final Moment

NFL WEEK 2 · 2026 | GRADES 7–8 | PHI @ TEN · PHI 24 – TEN 20

NAME _____	DATE _____	SCORE ____ / 11

STORY Read the story, then answer the questions.

How the Game Began

On Sunday, September 20, 2026, the Philadelphia Eagles, the away team, beat the Tennessee Titans, the home team, 24-20 in Nashville. Philadelphia arrived at 1-0, while Tennessee hoped Cam Ward could guide its young roster after an opening loss. The Titans struck first when Hooker intercepted Hurts at the goal line and returned the ball 92 yards. Ward then sneaked in from 1 yard out. Philadelphia answered early in the second quarter as Tank Bigsby scored from 2 yards, tying the game 7-7.

The Deciding Moments

Hurts then developed a rhythm with Smith, who made 18- and 22-yard catches before scoring on a 22-yard touchdown reception. Ward responded by moving Tennessee into field-goal range, and Joey Slye cut Philadelphia's halftime lead to 14-10. Jake Elliott's 58-yard field goal gave the Eagles more room in the third quarter, but Ward's second 1-yard rushing touchdown tied it 17-17. Later, Harris intercepted Hurts, and Tennessee turned a long Ayomanor catch and Spears run into Slye's 33-yard field goal. Down 20-17 with 1:56 left, Hurts drove Philadelphia to the 3-yard line before hitting Cooper for the winning score with nine seconds remaining.

Big Performances and Takeaways

Smith led Philadelphia with 10 catches, 117 yards, and a touchdown, giving Hurts a dependable target when the final drive mattered most. Hurts passed for 264 yards and two touchdowns, while Wicks added 74 receiving yards. Ward offered Tennessee real encouragement, passing for 183 yards and running for both scores without an interception. Pollard added 64 rushing yards as the Titans

totaled 122 on the ground. The Eagles are now 2-0 and will face the Chicago Bears, knowing they can recover from errors. Tennessee falls to 0-2 but showed it can compete before meeting the New York Giants.

WORDS TO KNOW

From the story.

roster (n.): The full group of players on a sports team.

intercepted (v.): Caught a pass meant for a player on the other team.

rhythm (n.): A smooth, steady pattern of successful play.

reception (n.): A catch of a forward pass in football.

dependable (adj.): Able to be trusted to do what is needed.

READING

Fill in the bubble for the best answer. Write full sentences.

1 **Which detail best supports the idea that Tennessee took an early advantage in the game?**

- (A) Ward hoped to guide Tennessee's young roster.
- (B) Bigsby scored from 2 yards early in the second quarter.
- (C) Hooker intercepted Hurts at the goal line and returned the ball 92 yards.
- (D) Philadelphia arrived in Nashville with a 1-0 record.

2 **What does the phrase "struck first" mean as it is used in the section?**

- (A) Tennessee scored before Philadelphia scored.
- (B) Tennessee gained more yards than Philadelphia.
- (C) Tennessee began the game with possession.
- (D) Tennessee caused the first turnover of the game.

3 **Which sequence most directly explains how Philadelphia won the game?**

(A) Hurts drove to the 3-yard line and threw a touchdown with nine seconds left.

(B) Elliott made a 58-yard field goal, and Ward later tied the game.

(C) Harris intercepted Hurts, and Slye gave Tennessee a late lead.

(D) Smith caught an early touchdown, and Slye cut the halftime lead.

4 **What is a central idea developed in this section?**

(A) Tennessee relied only on field goals to remain close throughout the game.

(B) Philadelphia built an early lead that Tennessee never seriously challenged.

(C) Philadelphia avoided turnovers and controlled the score from start to finish.

(D) Both teams responded to key plays, but Philadelphia made the final decisive play.

5 **Which detail best supports the claim that Smith was a dependable target for Hurts?**

(A) Ward passed for 183 yards without an interception.

(B) Wicks contributed 74 receiving yards for Philadelphia.

(C) Hurts passed for 264 yards and two touchdowns.

(D) Smith had 10 catches for 117 yards and a touchdown.

6 **Explain how the section presents both Philadelphia and Tennessee as having reasons for confidence after the game. Use at least two details from the section in your response.**

MATH Use the game stats. Show your work.

1 **On Mia's stat sheet, in a week 2 game, Cam Ward had an average of -4.58 - (-13.73) yards per passing attempt. Evaluate the expression.**

(A) 0.33
(B) -18.31
(C) 62.88
(D) 9.15

SHOW YOUR WORK

2 **In week 2, Cam Ward had 20 passing attempts. His practice total is 70% higher. Find it. Round to the nearest whole number.**

(A) 34
(B) 160
(C) 14
(D) 6

SHOW YOUR WORK

3 **In week 2, Cam Ward averaged 9.2 yards per pass attempt. Suppose his practice average is 2.8 yards higher. What is his practice average?**

(A) 12.0
(B) 2.8
(C) 6.4
(D) 9.5

SHOW YOUR WORK

4 **Mia's week 2 stat sheet models Cam Ward's passing-yard adjustment as -55 - (-238). Evaluate the expression.**

(A) 13090
(B) 183
(C) -183
(D) -293

SHOW YOUR WORK

5 **In week 2, Jalen Hurts had 37 passing attempts. His practice total is 80% lower. Find it. Round to the nearest whole number.**

(A) 67
(B) 74
(C) 7
(D) 30

SHOW YOUR WORK

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT · Cam Ward (TEN)

Passing yards: 183 | Rushing yards: 7 | Rushing TD: 2

6 **Cam Ward's stats from this game (TEN): 183 passing yards, 7 rushing yards, 2 rushing touchdowns. Use the Player Spotlight above. Scoring: each passing yard = 0.04 point; each rushing yard = 0.1 point; each rushing touchdown = 6 points. How many fantasy points did Cam Ward score?**

(A) 19.32
(B) 12.7
(C) 20.02
(D) 31

SHOW YOUR WORK

Answer key starts on the next page. Keep it back before handing out.

ANSWER KEY

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About 20 minutes

Separate these pages before giving the worksheet to students.

Standards: RI.8.1 · RI.8.2 · RI.8.4 · 7.NS.A.3 · 7.RP.A.3

READING

Correct answers are filled in.

1 **C** Hooker intercepted Hurts at the goal line and returned the ball 92 yards.

Hooker's long interception return set up Ward's 1-yard touchdown, which gave Tennessee the first score of the game.

2 **A** Tennessee scored before Philadelphia scored.

The phrase refers to Tennessee scoring first, after the interception return and Ward's 1-yard rushing touchdown.

3 **A** Hurts drove to the 3-yard line and threw a touchdown with nine seconds left.

With Philadelphia trailing 20-17 late in the game, Hurts led a drive to Tennessee's 3-yard line and threw the winning touchdown with nine seconds remaining.

4 **D** Both teams responded to key plays, but Philadelphia made the final decisive play.

The section shows repeated responses by both teams: Tennessee answered Philadelphia's scores and took a late lead, but Philadelphia's final touchdown decided the game.

5 **D** Smith had 10 catches for 117 yards and a touchdown.

Smith's team-leading 10 catches, 117 yards, and touchdown show that he consistently produced for Philadelphia.

6 What a good answer includes:

A strong response explains that Philadelphia can be confident because it is 2-0 and has productive players such as Smith and Hurts. It also explains that Tennessee has encouragement despite falling to 0-2 because Ward accounted for two rushing touchdowns without an interception and the team rushed for 122 yards.

MATH Correct answers are filled in.

1 D 9.15

2 A 34

3 A 12.0

4 B 183

5 C 7

6 C 20.02

183 passing yards × 0.04 = 7.32
7 rushing yards × 0.1 = 0.7
2 rushing touchdowns × 6 = 12
Total: 7.32 + 0.7 + 12 = 20.02