Isaiah Likely's Big Night Lifts Giants Into a Wild Tie in Washington

NFL WEEK 5 · 2026 | GRADES 7–8 | NYG @ WSH · NYG 27 – WSH 27

NAME _____	DATE _____	SCORE _____ / 11

STORY Read the story, then answer the questions.

Washington Strikes First

A missed extra point seemed small at first, but it helped set the uneasy tone in Washington. The Commanders opened with speed, as Jayden Daniels connected with Chig Okonkwo for gains of 11 and 23 yards. Then Jacory Croskey-Merritt burst through the middle for a 33-yard touchdown. The kick after the score missed, leaving Washington ahead 6-0.

New York answered with a 51-yard field goal after Jameis Winston found Malik Nabers for 20 yards. Yet Washington kept finding room. Okonkwo and Austin Ekeler made key catches, and Daniels later reached Terry McLaurin near the goal line. The Giants stopped that drive short of a touchdown, but Washington added a field goal. When Tim Settle recovered a Winston fumble, meaning the ball came loose and the defense grabbed it, the Commanders turned that chance into another field goal and led 12-3 at halftime.

Daniels Breaks Loose

The second half showed why Daniels can change a game in a few steps. Early in the third quarter, he raced 38 yards through the middle for a touchdown. In the fourth, he escaped again and ran 26 yards to the end zone. A two-point pass to McLaurin stretched Washington's lead to 27-13.

Daniels finished with 103 rushing yards and two touchdowns, forcing the Giants to worry about his throws and his runs. Washington had rebuilt its attack around that kind of speed after arriving with a 1-3 record. Still, the large lead did not end the story. Winston kept returning to Isaiah Likely, whose

steady catches gave New York a path back into the game.

Likely Leads the Return

Likely first caught a 3-yard touchdown late in the third quarter. Then, in the fourth, he appeared to fumble just before the goal line. Replay showed he had crossed the line before losing the ball, so the play became a 17-yard touchdown. His 11 catches for 94 yards showed the persistence of New York's comeback.

With 1:43 left, Winston hit Nabers deep down the middle for a 17-yard touchdown, and the extra point tied the game at 27–27. Nabers finished with 11 catches for 121 yards. Washington's last drive in regulation ended when the Giants recorded a sack, a tackle of the quarterback behind the line of scrimmage.

Overtime brought one final opening when Giants kicker Dominic Zvada missed from 46 yards. Washington moved into Giants territory, but Daniels was stopped by another sack as time expired. The tie left New York at 3–1–1 before a game against the Saints, while Washington moved to 1–3–1 and will face the 49ers. The Commanders proved they can build a lead; their next task is learning how to finish it.

WORDS TO KNOW From the story.

persistence (n.): The ability to keep working or trying even when something is difficult.

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

1 **How did the missed extra point after Washington's first touchdown affect the score?**

- (A) It gave New York a 1-point lead.
- (B) It tied the game at 7–7.
- (C) It left Washington leading 6–0.
- (D) It forced Washington to attempt a field goal.

2 **Which detail best explains why Daniels was difficult for the Giants to defend in the second half?**

- (A) He ran for 103 yards and two touchdowns.
- (B) He completed a pass to McLaurin for two points.
- (C) He helped Washington improve from 1–3.
- (D) He ended New York's final drive with a sack.

3 **What does the word "persistence" most nearly mean as it is used to describe New York's comeback?**

- (A) Continuing to work despite difficulty
- (B) Changing plans after an error
- (C) Relying on one quick play
- (D) Avoiding risks late in the game

4 **Which sequence best shows how the Giants came back to tie the game?**

- (A) The Giants stopped Daniels, Zvada made a field goal, and Nabers scored.
- (B) Nabers scored first, Likely scored twice, and Washington missed a field goal.
- (C) Likely scored twice, Nabers caught a late touchdown, and the extra point tied the game.
- (D) Winston threw an interception, Likely recovered it, and Nabers tied the game.

5 **Which central idea is developed across the article?**

(A) Washington built a large lead, but New York's determined comeback and key late stops resulted in a tie.

(B) New York controlled the game from the opening drive because its defense prevented Washington from scoring.

(C) Both teams depended mostly on field goals because neither offense reached the end zone.

(D) Washington's early missed extra point was the only reason the game finished tied.

6 **Explain how the game's momentum changed from Washington's early lead to the final tie. Use relevant details from throughout the article to show how players and key plays affected the outcome.**

MATH Use the game stats. Show your work.

1 **On Mia's stat sheet, in a week 5 game, Cam Skattebo had an average of -1.36 + 5.9 yards per rushing attempt. Evaluate the expression.**

(A) -8.02

(B) 4.54

(C) -7.26

(D) -4.54

SHOW YOUR WORK

2 **In week 5 of the 2026 season, Giants running back Cam Skattebo had 13 rushing attempts. A model predicts y = 3x + 30 rushing yards for x attempts. How many yards does this model predict for his attempt count?**

(A) 429
(B) 39
(C) 69
(D) 129

SHOW YOUR WORK

3 **In week 5, Cam Skattebo averaged 4.5 yards per rush. Suppose his practice average is 1.8 yards higher. What is his practice average?**

(A) 22.5
(B) 8.1
(C) 6.3
(D) 2.7

SHOW YOUR WORK

4 **Mia's week 5 stat sheet models Jayden Daniels's passing-yard adjustment as -80 + 279. Evaluate the expression.**

(A) -199
(B) 199
(C) -22320
(D) -359

SHOW YOUR WORK

5 **On Mia's stat sheet, in a week 5 game, Jayden Daniels had an average of 5.57 - (-2.39) yards per passing attempt. Evaluate the expression.**

(A) -13.31
(B) -7.96
(C) 7.96
(D) -2.33

SHOW YOUR WORK

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT · Cam Skattebo (NYG)

Rushing yards: 59
Receiving yards: 12
Catches: 2
Fumble lost: 1

6 **Cam Skattebo's stats from this game (NYG): 59 rushing yards, 2 catches, 12 receiving yards, 1 fumble lost. Use the Player Spotlight above. Scoring: each rushing yard = 0.1 point; each catch = 1 point; each receiving yard = 0.1 point; each fumble lost = -2 points. How many fantasy points did Cam Skattebo score?**

(A) 9.1
(B) 5.9
(C) 11.1
(D) 7.1

SHOW YOUR WORK

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 · 8.SP.A.3

READING

Correct answers are filled in.

1 C — It left Washington leading 6–0.

The article states that Croskey-Merritt scored a touchdown, but the kick missed, leaving Washington ahead 6–0.

2 A — He ran for 103 yards and two touchdowns.

Daniels's 103 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns showed that he could create big plays with his runs, making Washington's attack harder to defend.

3 A — Continuing to work despite difficulty

Likely's repeated catches and touchdowns helped the Giants keep fighting back after they had fallen behind, so persistence means continuing despite difficulty.

4 C — Likely scored twice, Nabers caught a late touchdown, and the extra point tied the game.

Likely scored a 3-yard touchdown and a 17-yard touchdown before Winston connected with Nabers for the touchdown that, with the extra point, made the score 27–27.

5 A — Washington built a large lead, but New York's determined comeback and key late stops resulted in a tie.

Washington led 27–13 after Daniels's rushing touchdowns, but Likely and Nabers helped New York tie the game, and late sacks helped prevent either team from winning.

6 What a good answer includes:

A strong response should explain that Washington built an early lead through scoring drives, turnovers, and Daniels's two rushing touchdowns. It should then describe how Likely's two touchdowns, Nabers's late touchdown and extra point, defensive sacks, and the missed Giants field goal in overtime led to a 27–27 tie. The response should use specific evidence from multiple parts of the article.

MATH

Correct answers are filled in.

1	B	4.54
2	C	69
3	C	6.3
4	B	199
5	C	7.96
6	D	7.1

59 rushing yards × 0.1 = 5.9
2 catches × 1 = 2
12 receiving yards × 0.1 = 1.2
1 fumble lost × -2 = -2
Total: 5.9 + 2 + 1.2 − 2 = 7.1