Colts Turn Miami's Opening-Drive Fumble Into a 24-22 Home Reset

NFL WEEK 10 · 2026 | GRADES 5–6 | MIA @ IND · IND 24 – MIA 22

NAME _____	DATE _____	SCORE _____ / 11

STORY Read the story, then answer the questions.

A Fresh Start Begins

Indianapolis came to Lucas Oil Stadium looking for a fresh start. At 2-7, the Colts were trying to leave behind a painful late loss to Dallas. Miami, 1-7, also needed a spark and played without quarterback Malik Willis and running back De'Von Achane.

The Colts began by using their running game to control the ball. Jonathan Taylor lost an early fumble, but Indianapolis recovered it. He then helped push the drive forward with tough runs. Early in the second quarter, Seth McGowan powered four yards into the end zone for a 7-0 lead. Miami answered with a surprise pass, as Malik Washington threw to Jalen Tolbert for a 34-yard touchdown. The tie did not last. McGowan burst 23 yards to the 1-yard line, and Daniel Jones hit Laquon Treadwell for a 7-yard score with 39 seconds left before halftime.

The Sudden Giant Swing

That 14-7 lead became much larger almost as soon as the second half began. On Miami's first play, cornerback Justin Walley rushed quarterback Kyle McCord and knocked the ball loose. This was a strip-sack, when a defender tackles the quarterback and jars the ball free. Defensive tackle Adetomiwa Adebawore fell on the loose ball in the end zone for a touchdown.

Only 12 seconds had passed, but the Colts led 21-7. Miami kept charging back. McCord found Washington for 31 yards, helping set up a 53-yard field goal. Then Miami cornerback Chris Johnson stepped in front of a Jones pass, caught it, and raced 59 yards for a touchdown. The extra kick

missed, so Indianapolis still held a 21-16 lead.

Holding On Until Zero

Jones and the Colts answered the interception by returning to Taylor and McGowan. Taylor ran for 83 yards, while McGowan added 77. Their runs helped set up Spencer Shrader's 51-yard field goal, which made the score 24-16 late in the third quarter.

Miami would not fade away. McCord led a fourth-quarter drive to the goal line and scored on a 3-yard run. His pass for two more points fell incomplete, leaving the Colts ahead 24-22. Miami later tried a 51-yard field goal to tie the game, but the kick went wide left. Near midfield, the Colts defense then brought down McCord on fourth down. McGowan ran twice for 12 yards, and Jones knelt to run out the clock. Indianapolis had its reset, reaching 3-7 with a close win.

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

1 **Which sequence best explains how Indianapolis regained the lead before halftime?**

- (A) Taylor recovered his fumble, and Shrader kicked a field goal.
- (B) McGowan reached the 1-yard line, and Jones threw to Treadwell.
- (C) Walley forced a fumble, and Adebawore recovered it.
- (D) Washington threw a touchdown pass, and McCord ran for a score.

2 **What does the technical term "strip-sack" mean as it is used in the article?**

- (A) A defender stops a runner short of a first down.
- (B) A defender blocks a field-goal kick near the goal line.
- (C) A defender tackles the quarterback and knocks the ball loose.
- (D) A defender catches a pass and returns it for a touchdown.

3 **How did Miami cut Indianapolis's lead from 21-7 to 21-16?**

(A) It stopped a fourth-down play and kicked two field goals.

(B) It scored two rushing touchdowns and made both extra kicks.

(C) It recovered an onside kick and scored a passing touchdown.

(D) It made a field goal and returned an interception for a touchdown.

4 **Which statement best expresses a central idea of the article?**

(A) Miami overcame every missing player by controlling the game late.

(B) Miami's passing attack was too strong for Indianapolis to answer in the second half.

(C) Indianapolis built its lead only by completing long passes before halftime.

(D) Indianapolis used a defensive touchdown and a strong running game to protect a close win.

5 **What do McGowan's two late runs and Jones's kneel show about how Indianapolis finished the game?**

(A) The Colts hoped to create a quick passing touchdown.

(B) The Colts tried to use the remaining time while keeping possession.

(C) The Colts planned to attempt a longer field goal.

(D) The Colts needed to give Miami another chance to score.

6 **Explain how Indianapolis earned its 24-22 win. In your response, describe how events from the first half, the sudden change at the start of the second half, and the final minutes connected to help the Colts hold on.**

MATH Math practice. Show your work.

1 PRACTICE

In 2025, Kenneth Gainwell recorded 537 rushing yards in 114 rushes. Find the average yards per play. Round to the nearest hundredth.

(A) 1.27
(B) 3.71
(C) 0.21
(D) 4.71

SHOW YOUR WORK

2 PRACTICE

In 2025, Devin Singletary averaged 3.67 yards per rush and 7.00 rushes per game. Find his rushing yards per game. Round to the nearest hundredths place.

(A) 0.52
(B) 3.33
(C) 10.67
(D) 25.69

SHOW YOUR WORK

3 PRACTICE

Stadium operations starts with 79 units. A loss removes 35 units. Which integer describes the change?

(A) 35
(B) 44
(C) 79
(D) -35

SHOW YOUR WORK

4 PRACTICE

A stadium calculation uses 5 1/3 ÷ 2 9/11. What is the quotient in simplest form?

(A) 15 1/33
(B) 93/176
(C) 1 83/93
(D) 58 2/3

SHOW YOUR WORK

5 PRACTICE

In the 2024 and 2025 seasons, Drake London's averages for receiving yards per catch were 12.7100 and 13.5147, respectively. What is the sum of the values? Round to the nearest hundredths place.

(A) 0.80
(B) 26.22
(C) 171.77
(D) 13.11

SHOW YOUR WORK

6 PRACTICE

In the 2024 and 2025 seasons, Dak Prescott scored 1.3750 and 1.7647 passing touchdowns per game, respectively. What is the sum of the values? Round to the nearest tenths place.

(A) 31.4
(B) 2.4
(C) 1.6
(D) 3.1

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.6.1 · RI.6.2 · RI.6.4 · 6.NS.A.1 · 6.NS.B.2 · 6.NS.B.3 · 6.NS.C.5

READING

Correct answers are filled in.

1 **B** McGowan reached the 1-yard line, and Jones threw to Treadwell.

After Miami tied the score with a touchdown pass, McGowan ran 23 yards to the 1-yard line. Jones then threw a touchdown pass to Treadwell, giving Indianapolis a 14-7 halftime lead.

2 **C** A defender tackles the quarterback and knocks the ball loose.

The article directly defines a strip-sack as a play in which a defender tackles the quarterback and jars the ball free.

3 **D** It made a field goal and returned an interception for a touchdown.

McCord's long pass helped set up a field goal, and Chris Johnson returned an interception for a touchdown. The extra kick after the touchdown missed, leaving Miami with 16 points.

4 **D** Indianapolis used a defensive touchdown and a strong running game to protect a close win.

The Colts gained a major lead through the defensive touchdown, then used Taylor's and McGowan's runs to set up points and run out the clock. These details show how Indianapolis held on for a close win.

5 **B** The Colts tried to use the remaining time while keeping possession.

After the defense stopped Miami on fourth down, McGowan ran twice and Jones knelt to run out the clock. These actions helped Indianapolis keep possession until the game ended.

6 What a good answer includes:

A strong response explains that Indianapolis took a halftime lead through McGowan's run and Jones's touchdown pass, then expanded the lead when Walley forced a fumble and Adebawore recovered it for a touchdown. It should also describe Miami's comeback, the Colts' field goal and running game, Miami's missed tying kick and failed fourth-down play, and the Colts running out the clock.

MATH

Correct answers are filled in.

1	D	4.71
2	D	25.69
3	D	-35
4	C	1 83/93
5	B	26.22
6	D	3.1