



Field Mixup

PROBLEM SOLVING · THREE ENDINGS

Jace jogs onto the lower turf field carrying the mesh ball bag, then finds half the team stretching beside the softball fence. His coach had told the players to move practice there because the main field was being lined for another event. The team captain told two late arrivals to meet at the upper field, after reading an older message thread. Jace can either start warmups with the group already on the turf or run up the hill to collect the missing players. The coach is unloading cones near the lacrosse crease, but the opening drill needs partners in even lines. If nobody checks quickly, one group may start the wrong drill while the other waits in the wrong place.

Choose the ending most likely to work, then predict what happens next.

- ☐ Jace starts the warmup lines on the turf and asks a teammate to wave over the late arrivals if they appear.
- ☐ Jace tells the coach that two players were sent to the upper field, then asks whether to bring them down or begin warmups.
- ☐ Jace runs to the upper field, brings the players down, and leaves the group on the turf waiting for the first drill.

Answer: 2

Think about it: What would change if Jace chose to start warmups before checking the mixed directions?

TEACHER NOTE

The best ending is 2 because it gives the coach the missing information before Jace spends time on either option. A strong prediction mentions one clear instruction, such as sending one person to the upper field or adjusting the drill until everyone arrives. Endings 1 and 3 are workable, but each leaves part of the problem unchecked.

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