

Rule Changes in the NFL

Field Trip/Virtual Field Trip Program



Field Trip/Virtual Field Trip Experience Outline:

10 minutes – Welcome/Mission/Values

30 minutes – Discussion/Videos on History of the NFL scoring system

10 minutes – Question and Answers

Instructions:

Please use the following lesson to help prepare your students for a more meaningful and interactive educational experience.



Subject: Mathematics, Language Arts

Lesson Title: Rule Changes in the NFL

Goals/Objectives:

- Students will:
 - Review addition facts
 - Practice problem solving skills
 - Read and interpret a chart
 - Demonstrate knowledge of language structure and conventions

Common Core Standards:

- **Mathematics:**
 - Measurement & Data: Represent and Interpret Data
 - Statistics and Probability: Summarize and Describe Distributions
- **Language Arts:**
 - Reading Informational Text
 - Reading Foundational Skills
 - Speaking and Listening

Methods/Procedures:

Prior to Program

- Students will:
 - Read *The NFL Scoring System chart* and use problem solving to determine the potential different outcomes of Super Bowl V.
 - Use *The NFL Scoring System Chart* and use problem solving skills to determine the various combinations of how teams could arrive at different point totals.
 - Compile a list of questions to be asked during the program.
 - Be encouraged to research other rule changes that have been a part of the NFL's history.

During the Program

- Students will:
 - Learn about the Mission/Values of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.
 - Learn about the rich history of professional football.
 - Learn about why different rules changes occurred and how it affected the growth of professional football.



After the Program

- Students will complete writing assignments following the lesson.
- Students can create algebraic equations to help determine scores of games played in various years.

Materials:

- The NFL Scoring System Chart
- Super Bowl V Worksheet
- Scoring Combinations Worksheet
- ProFootballHOF.com

Assessment:

- Teachers can assess from the written assignments.



The NFL Scoring System *From 1892 – to Present*

The values of scoring have undergone several changes since the birth of professional football in 1892. So much so that if the scoring values that were in place over 110 years ago were still the standard, it would have a dramatic effect on the outcome of many of today's games.

In fact, had an older scoring system been in place in the early '70s, the outcome of Super Bowl V would have been completely different. Baltimore Colts' first-year kicker Jim O'Brien booted a 32-yard field goal in the waning seconds of that title matchup against the Dallas Cowboys. His kick broke a tie game and gave the Colts a 16-13 victory for their first Super Bowl championship. Use the chart to determine how the outcome of the game would have been different.

	<u>1892</u>	<u>1897</u>	<u>1904</u>	<u>1909</u>	<u>1912</u>	<u>1994</u>
Field Goal	5	5	4	3	3	3
Touchdown	4	5	5	5	6	6
Point after Touchdown	2	1	1	1	1	1
Two-point Conversion	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Safety	2	2	2	2	2	2

1st Qtr. – Clark 14 yard field goal (Dallas)

2nd Qtr. – Clark 30 yard field goal (Dallas)
 Unitas 75 yard touchdown pass to Mackey (Baltimore)
 Extra point was blocked
 Morton 7 yard touchdown pass to Thomas (Dallas)
 Extra point was made

3rd Qtr. – Neither team scored

4th Qtr. – Nowatzke with 2 yard touchdown run (Baltimore)
 Extra point was made
 O'Brien 32 yard field goal (Baltimore)

FINAL:
 Baltimore 16
 Dallas 13



Are there other ways the teams could have achieved the same scores? If so, please explain.

If no, please explain

What would the score be if the game had been played in 1892?

1904?

1909?

1912?










Scoring Combinations

The 2023 AFC Divisional round of the NFL playoffs placed the Jacksonville Jaguars against the Los Angeles Chargers. The Jaguars won after starting the game trailing by 27 points. Would they have been able to come all the way back if the scoring system had been different? Could the Chargers have won?

	<u>1892</u>	<u>1897</u>	<u>1904</u>	<u>1909</u>	<u>1912</u>	<u>1994</u>
Field Goal	5	5	4	3	3	3
Touchdown	4	5	5	5	6	6
Point after Touchdown	2	1	1	1	1	1
Two-point Conversion	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Safety	2	2	2	2	2	2

Scoring Summary

1ST QUARTER		LAC	JAX
	TD 13:33 Austin Ekeler 13 Yd Run (Cameron Dicker Kick) <i>2 plays, 18 yards, 0:40</i>	7	0
	FG 5:30 Cameron Dicker 22 Yd Field Goal <i>12 plays, 57 yards, 4:32</i>	10	0
	TD 0:44 Austin Ekeler 6 Yd Run (Cameron Dicker Kick) <i>3 plays, 16 yards, 1:18</i>	17	0
2ND QUARTER		LAC	JAX
	TD 7:12 Gerald Everett 9 Yd pass from Justin Herbert (Cameron Dicker Kick) <i>11 plays, 62 yards, 6:24</i>	24	0
	FG 4:25 Cameron Dicker 23 Yd Field Goal <i>4 plays, 1 yard, 0:49</i>	27	0
	TD 0:24 Evan Engram 9 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Riley Patterson Kick) <i>7 plays, 47 yards, 1:25</i>	27	7
3RD QUARTER		LAC	JAX
	TD 5:11 Marvin Jones Jr. 6 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Riley Patterson Kick) <i>14 plays, 89 yards, 7:17</i>	27	14



3RD QUARTER

		LAC	JAX
	FG 2:58 Cameron Dicker 50 Yd Field Goal <i>7 plays, 45 yards, 2:13</i>	30	14
	TD 0:44 Zay Jones 39 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed) <i>5 plays, 68 yards, 2:14</i>	30	20

4TH QUARTER

		LAC	JAX
	TD 5:25 Christian Kirk 9 Yd pass from Trevor Lawrence (Trevor Lawrence Run for Two-Point Conversion) <i>9 plays, 70 yards, 3:22</i>	30	28
	FG 0:00 Riley Patterson 36 Yd Field Goal <i>10 plays, 61 yards, 3:09</i>	30	31

FINAL:

LAC 30

Jacksonville 31

Chargers Field Goals = 3 for 9 points
Chargers Touchdowns = 3 for 18 points
Extra Point = 3 for 3 points
2-Point Conversions = 0 for 0 points
Chargers total = 30 points

Jaguars Field Goals = 1 for 3 points
Jaguars Touchdowns = 4 for 24 points
Extra Point = 2 for 2 points
2-Point Conversions = 1 for 2 points
Jaguars total = 31 points



Are there other ways the teams could have achieved the same scores? If so, please explain.

If no, please explain

What would the score be if the game had been played in 1892 (assuming the Jaguars would kick extra points instead of their 2-point conversion)?

1904?

1909?

1912?



Using the NFL Scoring System chart choose a year and write about a game that was played in that year. What teams played? Where was the game played? Were there any great plays? Then research the game and the scoring for the game and describe the difference if it was scored in a different era.

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Writing Assignment:

Write about a rule you would change in the NFL and why you would change the rule. Make sure to think about some of the rules you have previously learned about and why they were changed. This will help you when you are thinking about the current rule you want to change.

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Answer Key

Super Bowl V (1971):

Baltimore - 16

Dallas - 13

Baltimore Field Goals = 1 for 3 points

Baltimore Touchdowns = 2 for 12 points

Extra Point = 1 for 1 point

2-Point Conversions = 0 for 0 points

Baltimore total = 16 points

Dallas Field Goals = 2 for 6 points

Dallas Touchdowns = 1 for 6 points

Extra Point = 1 for 1 point

2-Point Conversions = 0 for 0 points

Dallas total = 13 points

Are there other ways the teams could have achieved the same scores? If so, please explain

Student responses will vary.

If no, please explain

Student responses will vary.

What would the score be if the game had been played in:

1892? Baltimore 15 - Dallas 16

1904? Baltimore 15 – Dallas 14

1909? Baltimore 14 – Dallas 12

1912? Baltimore 16 – Dallas 13



Answer Key

The 2023 AFC Divisional Round

Chargers – 30

Jaguars – 31

Chargers Field Goals = 3 for 9 points

Chargers Touchdowns = 3 for 18 points

Extra Point = 3 for 3 points

2-Point Conversions = 0 for 0 points

Chargers total = 30 points

Jaguars Field Goals = 1 for 3 points

Jaguars Touchdowns = 4 for 24 points

Extra Point = 2 for 2 points

2-Point Conversions = 1 for 2 points

Jaguars total = 31 points

Are there other ways the teams could have achieved the same scores? If so, please explain

Student responses will vary.

If no, please explain

Student responses will vary.

What would the score be if the game had been played in:

1892? Chargers 33 – Jaguars 27

1904? Chargers 30 – Jaguars 27

1909? Chargers 27 – Jaguars 26

1912? Chargers 30 – Jaguars 31

