1. From an early age, Postema had wanted to be a major league baseball umpire. Rather than diminish, her desire ________________ as she got older.

2. When Postema went to umpiring school, female umpires were rare. The ________________ at the school was almost entirely male.

3. Disregarding the ________________ against women in professional sports, Postema enrolled in the nation’s top umpiring school and graduated in the top fifth of her class.

4. The Gulf Coast Single A League hired Postema as an umpire. The day she made her professional ________________ with them was a memorable one for the young woman.

5. Postema received a lot of criticism from male ballplayers, but she was always quick with a ________________ when someone tried to insult her.

6. When a male umpire made a bad call, the fans shrugged it off. When a female umpire made a bad call, fans unfairly said that she was easily ________________.

7. Postema was used to criticism from fans, but she took action after some of the more ________________ offenses.

8. A player told a reporter that women should not be umpires. Postema found the remark ________________, but replied calmly and gracefully.
9. Postema was much stricter than other umpires. She had to make it clear from the start that no one could misbehave with ________________.

10. Arguing calls is part of the game of baseball. But who is more ________________ to argument: umpires or managers?

11. Managers and umpires have to stand up to each other, but when they raise their voices and threaten one another, then it becomes a game of ________________.

12. After a five-year ________________ in the Triple-A League, Postema was ready for the next step.

13. It had always been Postema's ambition to umpire major league games. Her ________________ was realized during the 1988 spring training season.

14. In 1990, Postema was dropped from the official list. She had to ________________ the fact that her career as a professional umpire was over.

15. Postema didn't like it when she was dropped from the official list. She has no complaints, however; it is her ________________ opinion that she was treated fairly.