

from SEABISCUIT: AN AMERICAN LEGEND

Selection Test A

Comprehension

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer.
(6 points each)

1. At the beginning of the race, Seabiscuit's jockey worried because Seabiscuit
 - A. was blind in one eye
 - B. was nervous in front of large crowds
 - C. had not run in several weeks
 - D. did not run well in mud
2. What happened to the horses that were ahead early in the race?
 - A. They led throughout the race.
 - B. They slipped on the muddy track.
 - C. They tired and fell behind.
 - D. They dropped out of the race.
3. The author creates suspense by
 - A. identifying which horse won the race
 - B. revealing a secret that Seabiscuit's jockey had
 - C. telling how the jockeys felt after the race
 - D. describing the race as it was happening
4. Why did Seabiscuit lose the race?
 - A. He lost interest in running.
 - B. His jockey was frightened.
 - C. His jockey had a blind eye.
 - D. He was not a good racer.
5. The author achieves the purpose of entertaining the reader by
 - A. using suspense
 - B. writing a biography
 - C. giving correct information
 - D. expressing her opinions

SELECTION TEST A, CONTINUED

Vocabulary

Choose the answer that best explains the meaning of each underlined word. (6 points each)

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| <p>6. What does <u>trepidation</u> mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. happinessB. concernC. fearD. hope <p>7. What does <u>optimal</u> mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. easiestB. bestC. quickestD. most complete <p>8. <u>Increments</u> are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. small changesB. sudden changesC. unexpected changesD. terrible changes | <p>9. A <u>cadence</u> is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. a steady rhythmB. an uneven motionC. a repeated actionD. a fast gallop <p>10. An <u>inept</u> worker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. tries to do things wellB. makes many mistakesC. produces good workD. works quickly |
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Written Response

Short Response Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the selection. Write a sentence or two on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

11. Why did Seabiscuit's jockey try to keep Seabiscuit away from the rail?
12. Name one detail in the story that creates suspense. Then describe how this detail creates its effect.

Extended Response Answer the following question based on your knowledge of the selection. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

13. Do you think the author's main purpose is to inform or to entertain? Provide two examples from the story to support your answer.