

## Quick Check

## American Sports Legends

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. How did Jackie Robinson affect Major League Baseball?
  - Ⓐ He was the best African American pitcher in the history of the league.
  - Ⓑ He was the first African American player in the league.
  - Ⓒ He made sure African American players were paid the same as white players.
  - Ⓓ He set a record for the most homeruns hit by an African American player.
2. Which of the following happened before Jim Thorpe appeared at the Summer Olympics in 1912?
  - Ⓐ He was the president of the American Football Association.
  - Ⓑ He played professional baseball.
  - Ⓒ He was a world-famous athlete.
  - Ⓓ He was a well-known college football star.
3. What is a **legacy**?
  - Ⓐ something that will make someone famous
  - Ⓑ something that will cause many problems
  - Ⓒ something handed down from the past to the present
  - Ⓓ something that is very popular
4. What similarities do all the athletes in the book share?
  - Ⓐ They were all excellent at golf.
  - Ⓑ They all participated on professional teams.
  - Ⓒ They all had fans boo and insult them.
  - Ⓓ They all showed great strength and follow-through.

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5. How did Babe Didrikson blaze a path for female athletes?
  - Ⓐ She dominated women's basketball, track and field, and golf.
  - Ⓑ She created a women's professional track team.
  - Ⓒ She played on a men's baseball team.
  - Ⓓ She spoke to young girls to inspire them.
6. What was the effect of Babe being diagnosed with cancer in 1953?
  - Ⓐ She was too sick to continue with sports.
  - Ⓑ She was back on the pro tour in a few weeks.
  - Ⓒ She returned to sports but collapsed on the field.
  - Ⓓ She recovered for several years and then returned to sports.
7. What was the author's purpose for writing *American Sports Legends*?
  - Ⓐ to persuade the reader to pursue sports
  - Ⓑ to entertain the reader with stories about incredible moments in the history of sports
  - Ⓒ to inform the reader about athletes who helped to change the history of sports
  - Ⓓ to inform the reader about the history of discrimination in the United States
8. An **ordeal** is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Ⓐ a difficult experience
  - Ⓑ a funny experience
  - Ⓒ a confusing experience
  - Ⓓ an encouraging experience
9. Which of the following words describes Jesse Owens?
  - Ⓐ courageous
  - Ⓑ angry
  - Ⓒ proud
  - Ⓓ shy

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**10.** What does the author most want you to know about Jim Thorpe?

- Ⓐ He was the first Native American professional athlete.
- Ⓑ He is the founding father of professional football.
- Ⓒ He portrayed Native Americans in films in his later years.
- Ⓓ He was the greatest athlete of the twentieth century.

**11. Extended Response:** What can you tell about Jesse Owens on the basis of his participation in the 1936 Olympics?

**12. Extended Response:** Which of the athletes profiled in the book would you like to interview? What two questions would you ask the athlete on the basis of the information in the book?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## American Sports Legends

Main Comprehension Skill: Elements of Biography

1. Ⓑ *Elements of Biography*
2. Ⓓ *Sequence Events*
3. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
4. Ⓓ *Sequence Events*
5. Ⓐ *Elements of Biography*
6. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
7. Ⓒ *Author's Purpose*
8. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓐ *Elements of Biography*
10. Ⓓ *Author's Point of View*
11. Answers will vary but should express that Jesse Owens was very courageous to participate in the 1936 Olympics because the Nazi leader, Adolf Hitler, believed black people were "primitive" and therefore Jesse was unwelcome.
12. Answers will vary, but students should develop two questions that are based in the details found in the text.