

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. Mushers practice with their dogs every day so the dogs will _____.
 - Ⓐ learn how to run and play in the snow
 - Ⓑ know how to find the finish line
 - Ⓒ understand and obey their commands
 - Ⓓ memorize the route of the race
2. Why do mushers make special food for their dogs during the race?
 - Ⓐ The dogs need special nutrition to race.
 - Ⓑ The dogs don't like regular dog food.
 - Ⓒ The special dog food helps the dogs stay smaller.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
3. What is the main idea of the section titled "Choosing a Leader"?
 - Ⓐ The lead dog is always the one with the most energy.
 - Ⓑ The dogs line up in a double-file line behind the lead dog.
 - Ⓒ Mushers try many dogs as the leader before they decide on one.
 - Ⓓ The musher is always moving dogs around to try out different leaders.
4. After spending ten hours at Yentna Station, what do mushers do?
 - Ⓐ hit the trail
 - Ⓑ feed the dogs
 - Ⓒ start a bonfire
 - Ⓓ all of the above

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5. Why do adults check the payload, or supplies, for each musher?
 - Ⓐ to make sure the musher isn't carrying anything not allowed on the trail
 - Ⓑ to make sure each musher is carrying everything that is needed and all the gear is packed well
 - Ⓒ to make sure that the weights of all the sleds are the same
 - Ⓓ to pack extra items that weren't on the checklist
6. Which of the following is the best main idea statement for this book?
 - Ⓐ The Jr. Iditarod is a special race for training dogs.
 - Ⓑ The Jr. Iditarod is race where dogs run toward Nome, Alaska to take medicine to children.
 - Ⓒ The Jr. Iditarod is a demanding dogsled race in Alaska for 14- to 17-year-old teens.
 - Ⓓ The Jr. Iditarod is a competitive race to Yentna Station that lasts for one month.
7. How do the mushers likely feel when they reach Yentna Station?
 - Ⓐ relieved and tired
 - Ⓑ angry and hungry
 - Ⓒ bored and disappointed
 - Ⓓ confused and uncertain

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8. Read the following sentence:
*Mushers in the Jr. Iditarod race across many miles of challenging **terrain**.* What is another word for **terrain**?

Ⓐ checkpoints
Ⓑ land
Ⓒ payloads
Ⓓ weather

9. How did the author support the idea that mushers are always concerned about the safety of the other mushers?

Ⓐ Some mushers start training for the Jr. Iditarod at a very early age.
Ⓑ Each musher must stop and make a layover at Yentna Station.
Ⓒ Spectators cheer as the mushers and dogs take off down the trail.
Ⓓ Mushers stop to help others even if it means they might lose the race.

10. Something **grueling** is _____.

Ⓐ competitive
Ⓑ very difficult
Ⓒ done in partners
Ⓓ easy to complete

11. **Extended Response:** Explain why someone who wants to race in the Iditarod someday might decide to race in the Jr. Iditarod first.

12. **Extended Response:** What did the author mean at the end of the book when he wrote, "every participant in the Jr. Iditarod is a winner"?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Jr. Iditarod

Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details

1. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
2. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
3. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
5. Ⓑ *Main Idea and Details*
6. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
7. Ⓐ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
8. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers will vary but should include the idea that there are many skills that must be mastered before someone is qualified to be a musher in this challenging race.
12. Answers will vary but should include the idea that each musher worked with his or her team to complete an incredible race.