

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

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

1. Which phrase best states the author's purpose for writing this book?
  - (A) to tell readers about people who won gold medals
  - (B) to explain how determined winners at the Olympics are
  - (C) to compare Mark Spitz and Abebe Bikila to Jim Thorpe
  - (D) to show how you could earn a medal at the Olympics
2. What was most unusual about Abebe Bikila during the marathon at the 1960 games?
  - (A) He was from Ethiopia.
  - (B) He set a new record.
  - (C) He didn't wear shoes.
  - (D) He won by 200 meters.
3. Why are decathlon athletes the most fit of all competitors?
  - (A) They have to run the longest and fastest.
  - (B) They have to compete in ten events.
  - (C) They have to set world records.
  - (D) They throw and jump so much.
4. Why do you think Mark Spitz didn't brag about how many medals he would win the second time he competed in the Olympics?
  - (A) He was pleased with how many he won the first time he competed in 1968.
  - (B) He was disappointed that he didn't get the six gold medals he predicted the first time.
  - (C) He wanted to keep how many medals he would win a secret from everyone.
  - (D) He knew people would be happy to hear how many he thought he would win.
5. What could you not conclude about all the athletes profiled?
  - (A) They were all determined to compete and excel.
  - (B) They all wanted more medals than they won.
  - (C) They all worked and trained hard to achieve their goal.
  - (D) They were all able to perform at a high physical level.

*Quick Check continued on following page*

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6. What does **agility** mean?
  - Ⓐ being able to jump high over hurdles
  - Ⓑ being able to win many gold medals
  - Ⓒ being able to throw something heavy far
  - Ⓓ being able to move quickly and easily
7. How do you think Fanny Blankers-Koen felt about not being able to compete in 1940 and 1944?
  - Ⓐ excited and eager
  - Ⓑ scared and worried
  - Ⓒ pleased and relieved
  - Ⓓ disappointed and frustrated
8. Why were the Olympics not held in 1940 and 1944?
  - Ⓐ There was a war.
  - Ⓑ No one signed up.
  - Ⓒ It cost too much.
  - Ⓓ All of the above
9. Which fact about Nadia Comaneci is true?
  - Ⓐ She scored higher in gymnastics than anyone ever had.
  - Ⓑ She was from the United States of America.
  - Ⓒ She competed in gymnastics in a total of four Olympics.
  - Ⓓ She was 20 years old at her first Olympics.
10. What word means *continuing to do something even though it gets difficult*?
  - Ⓐ feat
  - Ⓑ decathlon
  - Ⓒ excel
  - Ⓓ endurance
11. **Extended Response:** Why is training important for Olympic athletes?

**Quick Check Answer Sheet****Summer Olympic Legends**

*Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details*

1. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
2. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
3. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
4. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
5. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
6. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
7. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
8. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
9. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers will vary somewhat but should include that training is important for Olympic athletes because they want to excel at their sports.