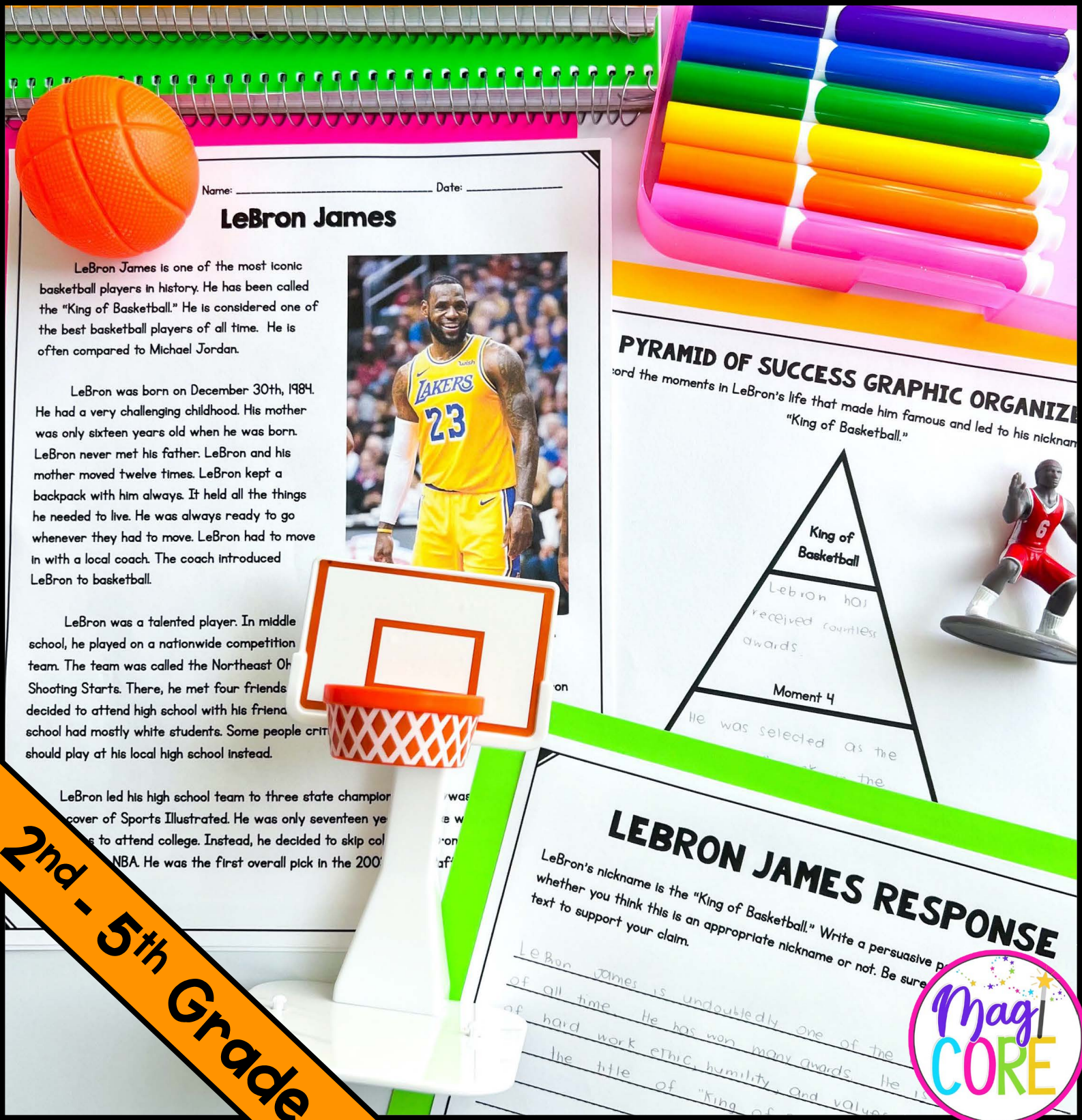
# SPORTS STARS

## Differentiated Passages

LEXILE

## RELUCTANT READERS




2nd - 5th Grade

MagiCORE

# SPORTS STARS PASSAGES

## 2nd- 5th grade

## Table of Contents

*This product includes 12 differentiated leveled passages in the 2nd-3rd and 4th-5th Grade Text Complexity Bands (the range for 2nd-3rd is 420-820 and 4th-5th grade is 740-1010). Each passage is available on three levels and comes with general comprehension questions, a skill-based activity, and a reading response activity.

This product line, Reluctant Readers, is designed to foster an interest in reading, even your most resistant readers. With interest-based topics, these passages can help build excitement and investment around reading.


1. Lebron James (490L, 770L, 960L)
2. Tom Brady (480L, 790L, 930L)
3. Alexander Ovechkin (480L, 770L, 1110L)
4. Shohei Ohtani (510L, 810L, 1030L)
5. Pelé (470L, 820L, 960L)
6. Nathan Chen (490L, 770L, 940L)
7. Danica Patrick (490L, 790L, 1010L)
8. Jackie Joyner-Kersee (490L, 780L, 910L)
9. Laila Ali (500L, 790L, 930L)
10. Megan Rapinoe (450L, 790L, 940L)
11. Sonja Henie (480L, 810L, 1000L)
12. Sue Bird (480L, 790L, 970L)

# ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS

MagiCore is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

| Grade Band | Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations |
|---|---|
| K-1 | N/A |
| 2-3 | 420L-820L |
| 4-5 | 740L-1010L |
| 6-8 | 925L-1185L |

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."

480L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Alexander Ovechkin

Alexander Ovechkin is a professional ice hockey player. Alex is from Moscow, Russia. Alex was born on September 17th, 1985. He has two older brothers. Their names are Sergei and Mikhail. His parents were both athletes. His mother won two Olympic gold medals playing basketball. His father played soccer. Alex loved watching hockey on TV. He would refuse to let anyone change the channel. His older brother, Sergei, introduced Alex to hockey. He was only two years old at the time.




Alex with the Washington Capitals celebrates with the Stanley Cup during a victory parade on June 12, 2018.

The Ovechkin family lived in a poor neighborhood. Alex attended the local elementary school. Eventually, he transferred schools. He went to Dynamo Moscow's sports school. Here, he trained twice a day. He focused all his energy on hockey. This commitment really paid off. He broke an all-time scoring record. He was only 11 years old.

Sergei always encouraged Alex. He encouraged him to pursue hockey. Sergei even helped drive him to hockey games. Sergei died when Alex was ten years old. He passed from complications after a car accident. Alex honors his brother today. He does this by kissing his glove. He then points to the sky after scoring a goal.

Alex played for the Russian Super League. He started at the age of sixteen. This league is the highest level of Russian hockey. He played three seasons with the RSL. Then he was drafted. He was the number one pick. He was drafted by the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals. Alex did not join the team right way. Alex ended up playing one more year with the RSL. This was due to a labor lockout in the NHL. The lockout suspended the 2004-2005 season.

©Julie Bachus

Alex scored 52 goals in his first season with the NHL. He also achieved 54 assists. He ended up breaking several records. He won many awards. One such award was the Calder Memorial Trophy. It is awarded to the best rookie of each NHL season. Alex has had a lot of success. He is one of the most prolific goal-scorers in NHL history. He is only one of three players to score over 800 career goals. The only player to score more goals is Wayne Gretzky. Gretzky is the greatest player in NHL history.

Alex has dazzling puck-handling skills. He makes a lot of highlight-reel plays. This showmanship has earned him the nickname "The Great Eight." The eight comes from his jersey number.

Alex is known for his giving heart. He is known for his philanthropic efforts. He often donates to various charities. He focuses on organizations in Russia. He favors those that help children in need. In 2006, he established his own charity. It is called Ovi's Crazy 8s. Ovi's Crazy 8s gives hockey tickets to underprivileged children. He also released a limited-edition breakfast cereal. The cereal is called Ovi O's. The cereal raised tens of thousands of dollars. All the money went to children's cancer research.

Alex is one of the all-time greats in NHL history. Alex Ovechkin's legacy will live on for many decades to come.



**Alex wearing his number 8 jersey playing for the Washington Capitals.**

©Julie Bocharov

770L

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At the age of sixteen, Alex played for the Russian Super League. This league is the highest level of Russian hockey. After three seasons with the RSL, he was drafted into the professional league. He was the number one pick by the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals. However, before joining the team, Alex ended up playing one more year with the RSL. There was a labor lockout in the NHL that suspended the 2004-2005 season.

©Tyler Bachus

During his first season in the NHL, Alex scored 52 goals. He also achieved 54 assists, breaking several records and winning many awards. One such award was the Calder Memorial Trophy. It is awarded to the best rookie of each NHL season. Since then, Alex has gone on to become one of the most prolific goal-scorers in NHL history. He is only one of three players to score over 800 career goals. The only player to score more goals is Wayne Gretzky. Gretzky is widely considered to be the greatest player in NHL history.

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As one of the all-time greats in NHL history, there is no doubt that Alex Ovechkin's legacy will live on for many decades to come.



**Alex wearing his number 8 jersey playing for the Washington Capitals.**

©Julie Backus

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©Julie Bochorsi

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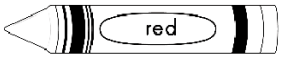
**Alex wearing his number 8 jersey playing for the Washington Capitals.**

©Julie Bocharova

**Sports Stars** Name: _____ Date: _____

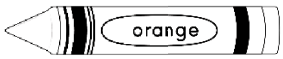
**Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is not a crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.**

1. Where did Alexander's professional career begin?




   a. The NHL
   b. The Junior League
   c. The Swedish Elite League
   d. Russia

2. Describe why Alexander's nickname "The Great Eight" is fitting.

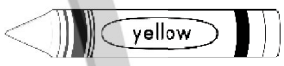



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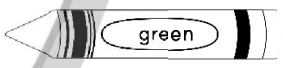
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3. Which organization raised thousands of dollars for children's cancer research?




   a. Ovi O's
   b. Ovi's Crazy 8s
   c. The Russian junior hockey leagues
   d. Washington Capitals

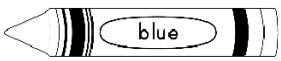
4. Evan said, "Alexander Ovechkin is a really generous guy!" What evidence might Evan have to back up his claim?




Claim: Alexander Ovechkin is a really generous guy!

Evidence from the text:

5. Based on the details from the text, what might Alexander's legacy be? How will he be remembered in the hockey community and internationally?




_____

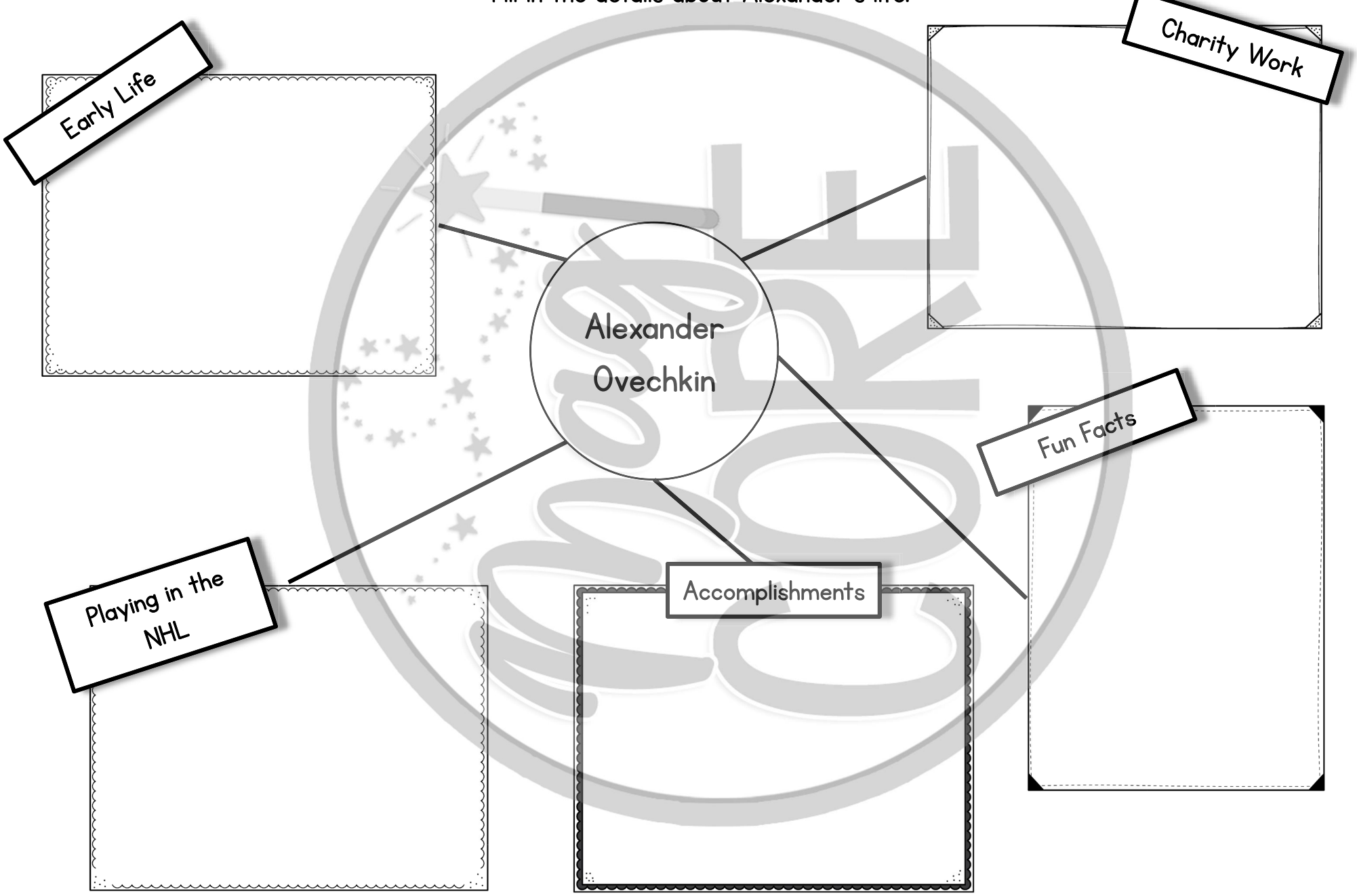
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_____

©Julie Bachuss

# DETAIL WEB

Fill in the details about Alexander's life.




©Julie Backus

# ALEXANDER OVECHKIN RESPONSE

What do you think the author's point of view is on Alexander Ovechkin? Examine the facts and details presented in the text. Use these details to help you understand the author's point of view. Write a response stating the author's point of view and use details from the text to illustrate this argument.

©Julio Barbosa

470L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Pelé

Edson Arantes do Nascimento was one of the world's best soccer players. You may know him as Pelé.

Pelé was born on October 23, 1940. He was born in Brazil. Pelé was raised by his mother and father. Pelé's father was a Brazilian soccer player. Pelé was the oldest of three kids. He was named after Thomas Edison. His nickname was Pelé. This is because he mispronounced the name of the soccer player, Bilé.



Pelé

Pelé grew up poor. He earned money by working in tea shops. Pelé could not hire a soccer coach. His father taught him how to play. Pelé practiced with a sock stuffed with newspaper.

Pelé played for amateur teams early on. When he was 15, Pelé went professional. He joined the team, Santos FC. In his first game, he scored six goals. He got national attention.

Pelé rose to fame. He had talent. He played for several teams. He played for Santos Futebol Clube. He played for the New York Cosmos. Pelé also played for the Brazilian national team. He won three World Cup titles. He is the only player ever to win three titles.

Pelé earned awards and titles. He was named South American Footballer of the Year four times. He was FIFA Player of the Century in 2000. Pelé holds records for most goals scored in a year. He was the all-time top scorer.

Pelé not only had success on the field. He helped off the field. He supported charities. He promoted peace during the Cold War.

On December 29, 2022, Pelé died. He was 82. Pelé died due to organ failure and colon cancer. People around the world remembered his legacy. Thousands of fans gathered at his funeral. People mourned and honored his life.

Pelé inspires people around the world. He left a mark on generations of soccer players. His legacy lives on. Pelé's influence is more than soccer. His hard work drove him to success.

©Julie Bochow

820L

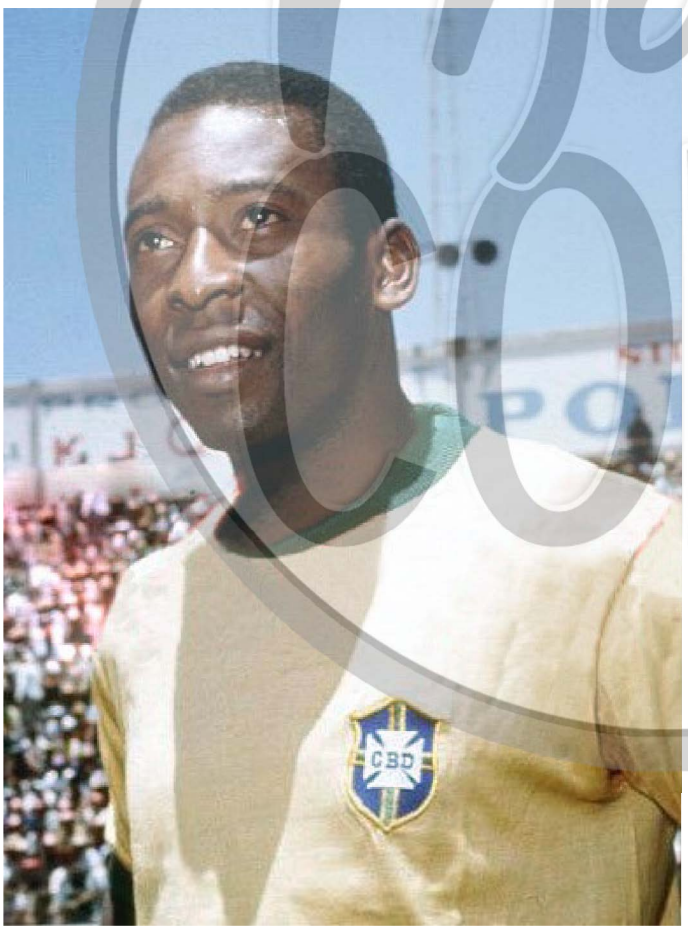
Name: _____ Date: _____

# Pelé

Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as Pelé, is one of the world's most renowned soccer players.

Pelé was born in Brazil on October 23, 1940, in Minas Gerais, Brazil. Pelé was raised by his mother and father. Pelé's father was a well-known Brazilian soccer player. Pelé was the oldest of three siblings. Pelé was named after Thomas Edison. He received his nickname, Pelé, because he mispronounced the name of his favorite soccer player, Bilé.

Pelé grew up in poverty. He earned money by working in tea shops. Pelé could not hire a soccer coach, so his father taught him. Pelé practiced with a sock stuffed with newspaper.




Pelé prepares for a soccer match.

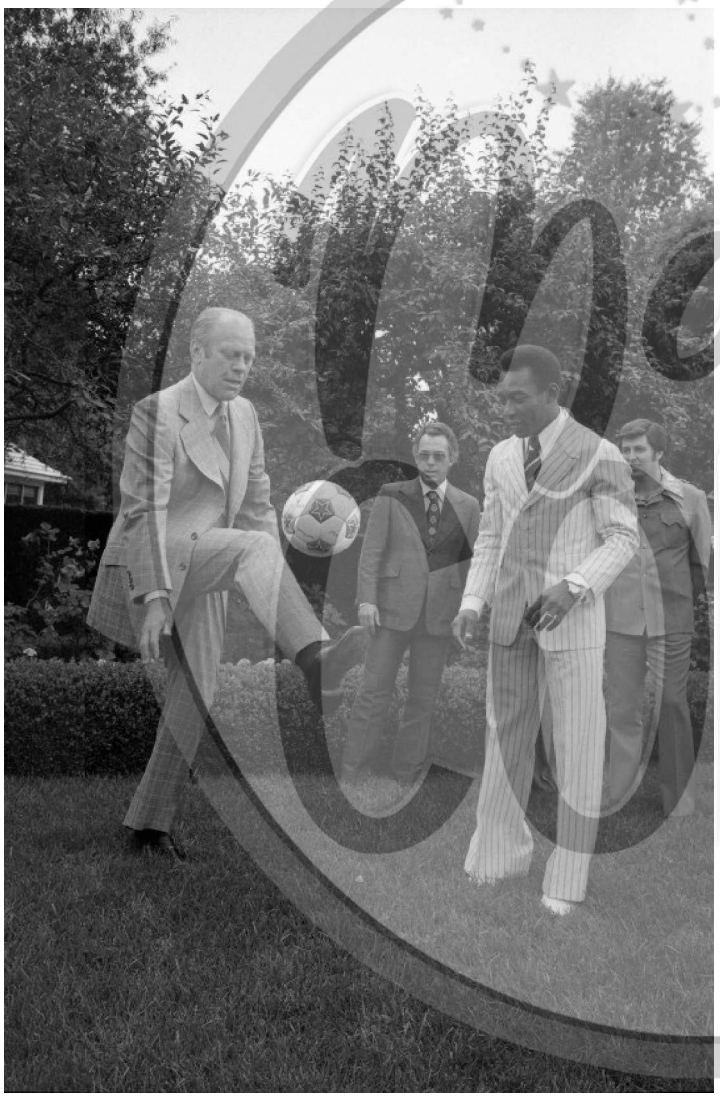
Pelé played for amateur teams early on. When he was 15, Pelé joined the professional team, Santos FC. In his first game, he scored six goals and gained national attention.

He quickly rose to fame for his great talent in the sport. During his career, he played for several different teams. Two of the teams included Santos Futebol Clube and the New York Cosmos. Pelé also played for the Brazilian national team. He won three World Cup titles, making him the only player ever to do so.

©Julie Bocturo

Pelé's outstanding skills earned him numerous awards and titles. He was named South American Footballer of the Year four times. He was FIFA Player of the Century in 2000. Pelé holds records for most goals scored in a calendar year. He was the all-time top scorer with 1,281 goals in 1,363 games.

In addition to these remarkable achievements on the field, Pelé supported causes off the field. He supported charities like UNICEF. He worked hard to promote peace during the Cold War.



President Gerald R. Ford juggles a soccer ball in The Rose Garden at The White House in 1975. Pelé watches in amusement.

On December 29, 2022, Pelé died at the age of 82 due to organ failure and complications from colon cancer. People around the world paid tribute to his legacy. Thousands of fans gathered at his funeral to mourn and honor his life.

Pelé is widely seen as an inspirational figure around the world. He has left a mark on generations of soccer players that followed him. His legacy lives on through books such as My Life and the Beautiful Game. Pelé's influence extends much further than what can be seen on a scorecard. His ambition drove him to continuously achieve.

©Julie Bocharo

960L

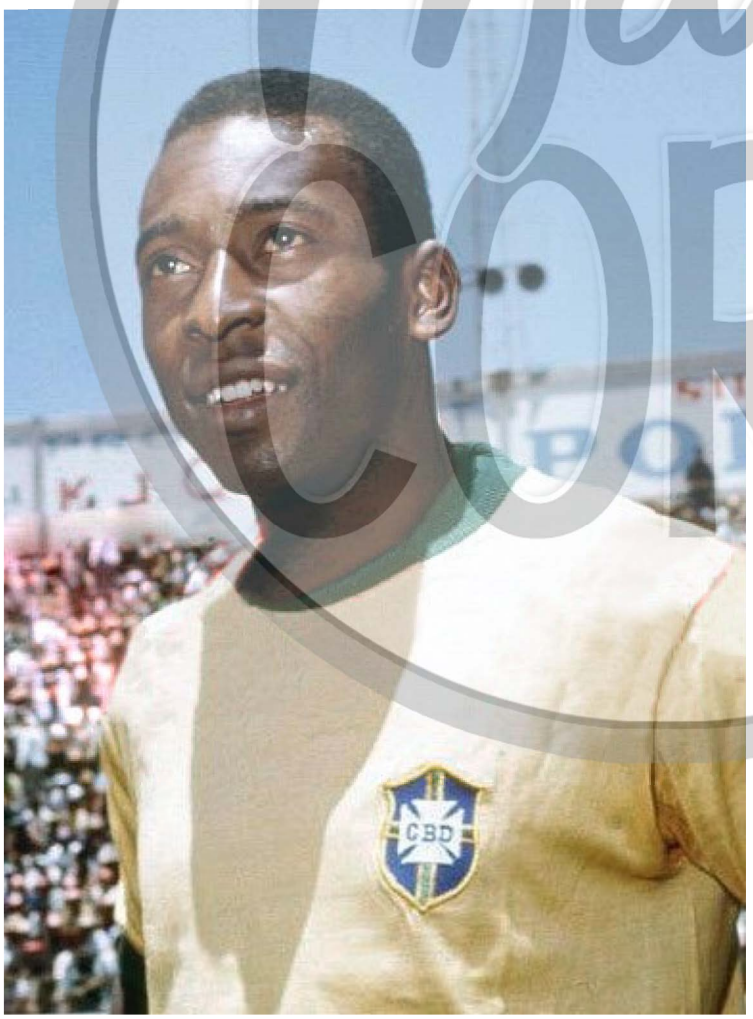
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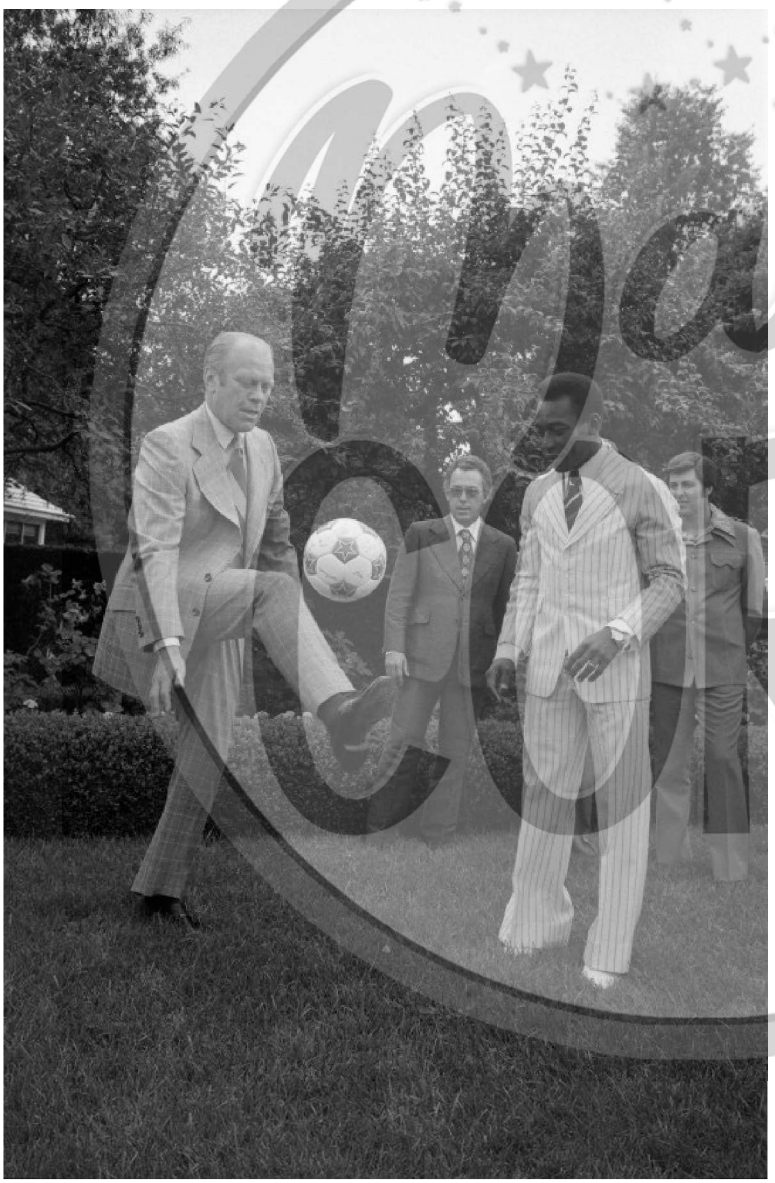
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©Julie Bochner

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In addition to these remarkable achievements on the field, Pelé was also a spokesperson and advocate for causes off the field. He supported charities like UNICEF and worked hard to promote peace among rival nations during the Cold War.



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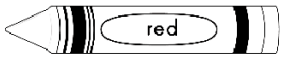
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©Julie Bocharo

**Sports Stars** Name: _____ Date: _____

**Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is not a crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.**

1. What is Pelé best known for?




   a. Immigrating from Brazil.
   b. Growing up in poverty.
   c. Brazil's best soccer player.
   d. The world's best soccer player.

2. Where is Pelé from?




_____

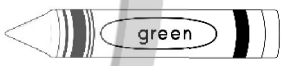
3. Who was Pelé originally named after?




   a. Edson Arantes
   b. Thomas Edison
   c. Bilé
   d. His father

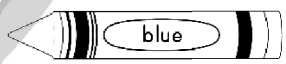
4. Read the following paragraph from the text. What can you determine based on these details?

*"Pelé played for amateur teams early on. When he was 15, Pelé joined the professional team, Santos FC. In his first game, he scored six goals and gained national attention."*




   a. Pelé is the best soccer player.
   b. Pelé is a hard worker.
   c. Pelé showed talent early on.
   d. Pelé will make a great soccer coach.

5. Summarize Pelé's achievements off the field.




_____

_____

_____

6. How is Pelé remembered today?




_____

_____

©Julie Backus

# ANALYZING PELÉ

Analyze the passage about Pelé.

**Prior Knowledge**

*What I already know...*

**Confirmed**

*I was right about...*

**Misconceptions**

*I couldn't prove...*

**New Learning**

*Now I know...*

**Wonderings**

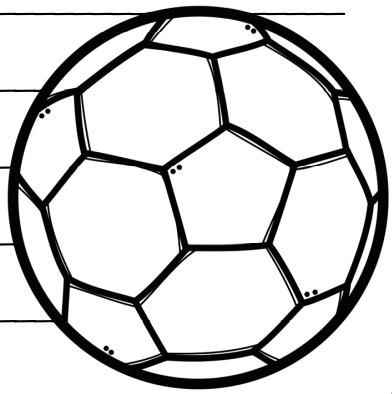
*I want to learn more about...*

©Julio Barbosa

# PELÉ RESPONSE

Based on the passage, what is the theme of the passage and Pelé's life? Begin by stating a thematic sentence. Then provide textual evidence to support this theme. How does this evidence prove the theme? Make sure to be concise and clear when identifying the theme.

Magic CORE



©Julio Barbosa

490L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Nathan Chen




**Nathan at the 2017 US Figure Skating Championships.**

Nathan Chen is an American figure skater. He was born on May 5th, 1999. Nathan started ice skating at age three. His parents noticed how fast he was. Chen was coordinated on the ice, too. They put him in a figure skating class. He was taught by a famous skating coach.

Nathan's first International Figure Skating Classic was in 2014. He was fourteen years old. He won gold in the junior men's division. Nathan became better each year. In 2015, Chen was in the Junior Grand Prix Final. He placed second. In 2016, Nathan made history. He was the first skater to land four quadruple jumps in a program. This was at the U.S. National Championships. This earned Nathan his first senior national title. It also gave him a spot on the 2016-17 World Championship Team.

Nathan has had many successes. He has won six U.S. National Championship titles as of 2022. Chen earned bronze, silver, and gold medals in Olympic events. In 2022, Nathan even set a world record. He earned the highest short program score ever. His score was 113.97.

Nathan is known for his creative dances. He is also famous for the different music he uses. He often uses songs from soundtracks or musicals. Chen is at the top of the ice-skating scene. He has many skills that other skaters do not. Fans all over the world love him.

Besides skating, Nathan is involved with charities. One of them is the Special Olympics. He also mentors people who want to get better at skating. He gives them tips on Skype or Zoom.

People think Nathan Chen will be a top American athlete for a long time.

©Julie Bachus

770L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Nathan Chen




Nathan at the 2017 US Figure Skating Championships.

Nathan Chen is an American figure skater who has quickly risen to fame. Nathan was born on May 5th, 1999, and began ice skating at age three. His parents soon noticed his impressive speed and coordination. They enrolled him in a figure-skating class. He was mentored by Rafael Arutyunyan, a famous skating coach.

Nathan was fourteen when he made his international debut at the 2014 U.S. International Figure Skating Classic. He won gold in the junior men's division at this competition. He continued to get better and placed second at the 2015 Junior Grand Prix Final. In 2016, Nathan made history. He became the first skater ever to land four quadruple jumps in a single program at the U.S. National Championships. This earned him his first senior national title. It also secured him a spot on the 2016-17 World Team Championship roster.

Nathan has been extremely successful. He has won six U.S. National Championship titles as of 2022. Chen also earned bronze, silver, and gold medals in Olympic events. In 2022, Chen set a world record when he received the highest short program score ever. He completed a triple axel and two quadruple jumps perfectly. This earned him a score of 113.97.

Nathan is known for his creative dance routines. He is also famous for his diverse music selection. He often uses songs from popular movie soundtracks or Broadway musicals. Nathan Chen dominates the ice-skating scene. His extraordinary skill set includes double axels, quadruple jumps, and triple toe loops. He earns admiration from fans all around the world.

Besides skating, Nathan is involved with charitable causes such as the Special Olympics. He also mentors people who want to improve their skating. He gives them tips on Skype or Zoom. It's expected that he will continue pushing boundaries further as one of America's most promising athletes!

©Julie Bochorse

940L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Nathan Chen




Nathan at the 2017 US Figure Skating Championships.

Nathan Chen is an American figure skater who has quickly risen to fame in the world of competitive skating. Born on May 5th, 1999, Nathan began ice skating at age three. His parents soon noticed his impressive speed and coordination. They enrolled him in a figure-skating class, where he was mentored by Rafael Arutyunyan, a famous skating coach.

At fourteen years old, Nathan made his international debut at the 2014 U.S. International Figure Skating Classic. He won the gold medal in the junior men's division at this competition. He continued to get better year after year and placed second at the 2015 Junior Grand Prix Final. In 2016, Nathan made history. He became the first skater ever to land four quadruple jumps in a single program at the U.S. National Championships. This resulted in his first senior national title and secured him a spot on the 2016-17 World Team Championship roster.

Throughout his career, Nathan has been extremely successful. He has won six U.S. National Championship titles as of 2022, as well as a bronze, silver, and gold medal in Olympic events. In 2022, Chen set a world record when he received the highest short program score ever. He completed a triple axel and two quadruple jumps perfectly. This earned him a score of 113.97.

©Julie Bochorsi

Nathan is known for his creative choreography and diverse music selection. He often uses songs from popular movie soundtracks or Broadway musicals. Nathan Chen dominates the ice-skating scene with his extraordinary skill set that includes double axels, quadruple jumps, and triple toe loops. He earns consistent admiration from fans all around the world.

Besides skating, Nathan is involved with charitable causes such as the Special Olympics. He also mentors people who want to improve their skating by giving them tips on Skype or Zoom. It's expected that he will continue pushing boundaries further as one of America's most promising athletes!



Nathan celebrating his performance after winning a medal at the 2019 Internationaux de France.

©Julie Bocharo

**Sports Stars** Name: _____ Date: _____

**Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is not a crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.**

1. Where did Nathan earn his first senior national title? 

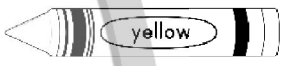
   a. During the International Figure Skating Classic.
   b. During the Junior Grand Prix Final.
   c. At the U.S. National Championships.
   d. In the Special Olympics.

2. What caused Nathan's parents to put him in a figure skating class? 

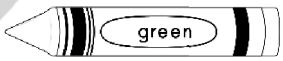

_____

_____

_____

3. Fill in the sequence of events throughout Nathan's career. 


| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 2016 Nathan made history by landing four quadruple jumps. | | In 2022, Nathan set a new world record for earing the highest short program score ever! |

4. Read the following paragraph from the text. What can you determine based on these details?
*"He also mentors people who want to get better at skating. He gives them tips on Skype or Zoom."*
   a. Nathan needs a side gig to earn more money. 

   b. Nathan appreciates his fans and enjoys connecting with them.
   c. Nathan is competitive.
   d. Nathan respects the sport of skating.

5. How has Nathan exemplified innovation throughout his career? 


_____

_____

_____

©Julie Bochoso

# CAUSE AND EFFECT

Complete the graphic organizer to show some of cause-and-effect relationships you noticed in the text.

| Cause | Effect |
| --- | --- |
| | |
| Cause | Effect |
| | |
| Cause | Effect |
| | |

©Julie Bachose

# NATHAN CHEN RESPONSE

The author makes a point of stating, "Fans all over the world love him," when referring to Nathan Chen. Explain how the author supports this claim with evidence from the text. Be sure to explain why these details and pieces of evidence are relevant to understanding the author's claim.

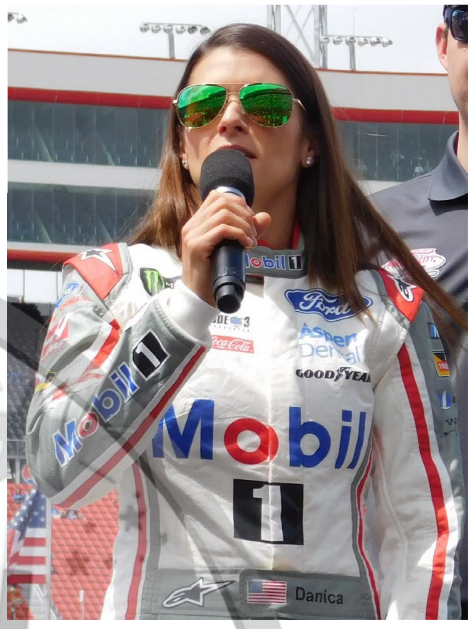
©Julio Barbosa

490L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Danica Patrick

Danica Patrick is a racecar driver. She has achieved great success. Racecar driving is a male-dominated sport. She is the most successful woman in the history of American open-wheel racing. Danica has more wins than any other female.




Danica just before a race at Bristol Motor Speedway in 2017.

Danica was born on March 25, 1982. She was born in Wisconsin. She was raised in Illinois. Danica has always been interested in racing. She showed a love for racing when she was young. She even built her own go-kart. She was just ten years old. She entered many go-kart championships. Danica came to win 70 races. This was out of her total 120 starts.

Danica started racing professionally at 18. She had two successful seasons. She started in the Toyota Atlantic Championship series. Then Danica made history. She became the first woman to win pole position at a NASCAR event! She went on to compete in the IndyCar series. She also competed in the NASCAR series. She proved to be highly competitive. She competed against both male and female opponents.

Danica has been breaking records her whole career. She has been making headlines with her performances on the track. In 2009, she became the first woman to win an IndyCar Series race. This achievement made her known worldwide!

Danica supports charities. She focuses on Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Danica contributes by hosting events. These events raise funds for breast cancer research. She is also a brand ambassador. She represents many companies around the world.

Danica Patrick is an inspirational athlete. She has achieved amazing success. She has shown that hard work can take you anywhere. It doesn't matter what gender you are. She is a role model for girls and women everywhere. She shows them that anything is possible. She helps them see that if you put your mind to it, you can do it. Her achievements show how far female athletes have come. There was a time when they had little representation within sports. Danica shows that there is a place for female athletes.

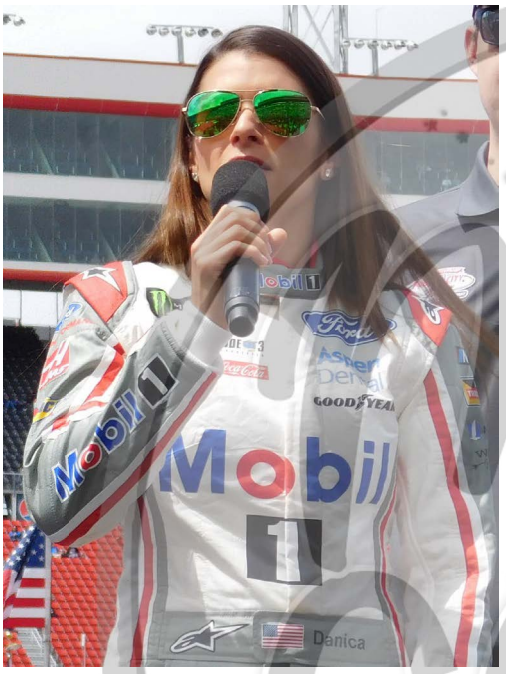
©Julie Bachus

790L

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When Danica turned 18, she started racing professionally. She had two successful seasons in the Toyota Atlantic Championship series. Then Danica made history. She became the first woman to win pole position at a NASCAR event! She went on to compete in the IndyCar and the NASCAR series. She proved to be highly competitive against both male and female opponents.

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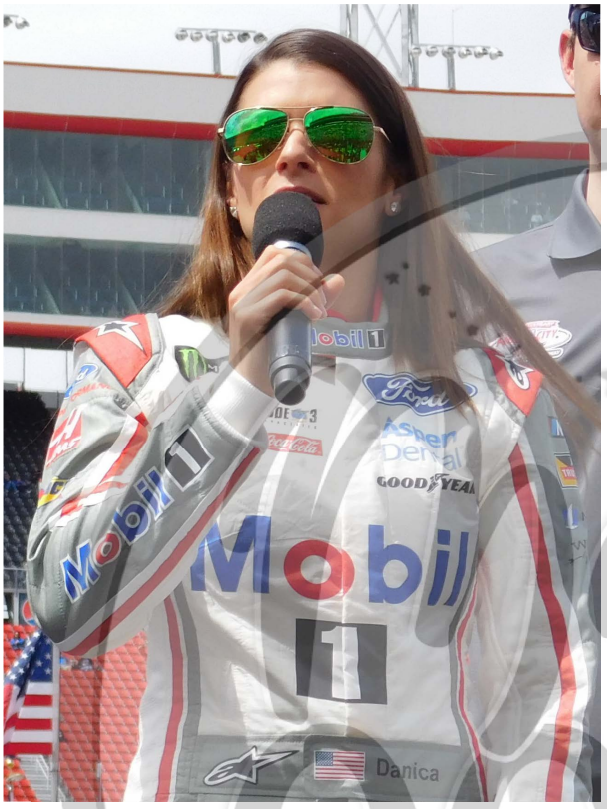
Danica Patrick is an inspirational athlete who has achieved amazing success. She has shown that hard work can take you anywhere. It doesn't matter what gender you are. She is a role model for girls and women everywhere. She shows them that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. Her achievements show how far female athletes have come since a time when they had so little representation within sports.

©Julie Bochorsi

1010L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Danica Patrick




Danica just before a race at Bristol Motor Speedway in 2017.

Danica Patrick is an incredible racecar driver who has achieved great success in a male-dominated sport. She is the most successful woman in the history of American open-wheel racing. Danica has more wins than any other female.

Danica was born on March 25, 1982, in Beloit, Wisconsin. She was raised in Roscoe, Illinois. From an early age, Danica showed a passion for racing. She even built her own go-kart when she was just ten years old. With help from her supportive parents, she entered numerous go-kart championships over the next few years. She came to win an impressive 70 races out of her total 120 starts.

At 18, Danica began to pursue a professional career. She had two successful seasons in the Toyota Atlantic Championship series. Then Danica made history by becoming the first woman to win pole position at a NASCAR event! Following this success, she went on to compete in both the IndyCar and NASCAR series. She proved to be highly competitive against both male and female opponents.

Throughout her career, Danica has been breaking records and making headlines with her impressive performances on the track. In 2009, she became the first woman to win an IndyCar Series race after finishing first at Twin Ring Motegi in Japan. This achievement got her worldwide recognition.

©Julie Bochorsi

Danica has shown that hard work, determination, and ambition can take you anywhere, regardless of gender. To this day, she continues to support charities such as Susan G. Komen for the Cure, hosting events to raise funds for breast cancer research. She is also a brand ambassador for numerous companies around the world.

Danica Patrick is an inspirational athlete who has achieved amazing success through perseverance and dedication. She is a role model for girls and women everywhere, showing that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. Her achievements show what one person can accomplish but also show how far female athletes have come since a time when they had so little representation within sports.



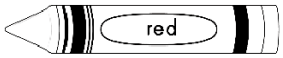

Danica's racecar

©Julie Bocheno

**Sports Stars** Name: _____ Date: _____

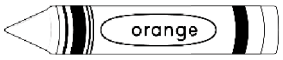
**Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is not a crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.**

1. How did Danica make history early on in her career?




   a. She became the first woman to win pole position at a NASCAR event.
   b. She won 70 races out of 120 races.
   c. She became the first woman to race professionally.
   d. She won an IndyCar Series race in her first year racing.

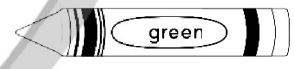
2. What was the effect of Danica winning the 2009 race?




3. How does Danica use her fame and success to give back and serve others? What evidence do you have to support your answer?




4. Does the passage support this claim, "Danica has an interest in racing from a young age." Make your argument and use evidence from the text to support your findings.




Claim: Danica had an interest in racing from a young age.

_____

Evidence from the text:

5. Summarize Danica Patrick's career.




©Julie Bochoso

# AUTHOR'S PERSPECTIVE

The author's opinion about a topic influences the facts that they present. Fill in the chart to analyze how the author's perspective about the impact Danica has made on racing.

Author's Perspective

Detail

Detail

Detail

How did the author's perspective influence the facts they chose to include?

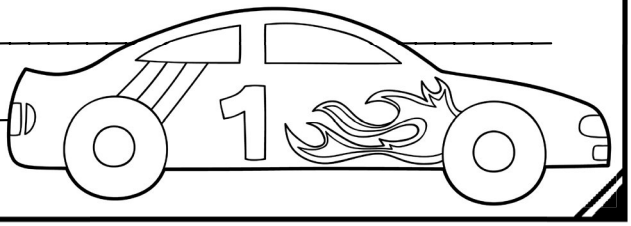


©Julie Pacheco

# DANICA PATRICK RESPONSE

A role model is a person whose behavior or success is admired and who sets an example for others to emulate. How do Danica's life, achievements, and character reflect the role of a positive role model? Who might she be a role model for? Use evidence from the passage to support your answer.

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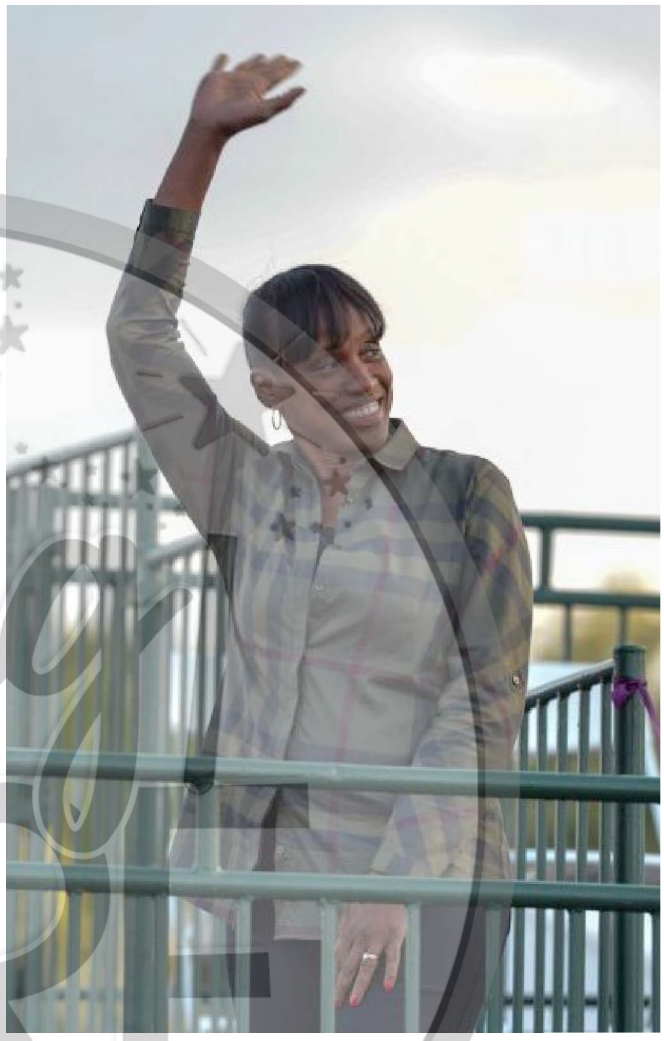
490L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Jackie Joyner-Kersee

Jackie Joyner-Kersee is a name that is remembered. She was a track and field athlete. Jackie Joyner-Kersee is an inspiration. Jackie was a hard worker on and off the track. Jackie had an incredible journey. She became one of the greatest female athletes.

Jackie's parents were very young when they got married. Her mom was 14 when her first child, Al, was born. Jackie was born in 1962. Her mom was 16. Jackie was named after the First Lady of the United States, Jacqueline Kennedy. Her grandmother named her. She hoped Jackie would be the first lady of something. The Joyners lived in East St. Louis, Illinois. Their community was very poor. Her parents worked hard. Her mother was a nurse's aide. Her father was a railroad construction worker.



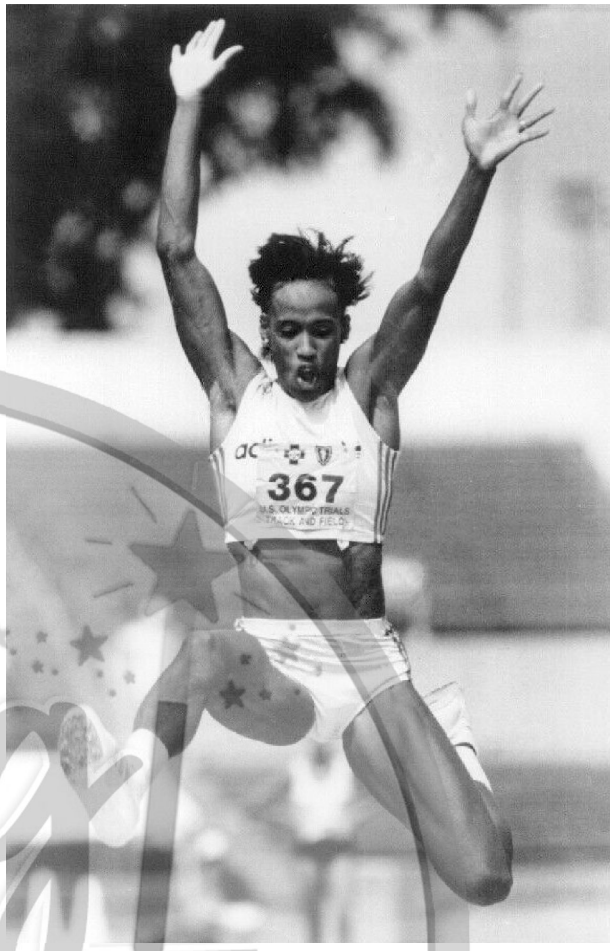
Jackie at the 2014 World Junior Championships in Athletics.

Jackie grew up in a poor but happy home. She said, "Their house was little more than wallpaper and sticks, with four tiny bedrooms. During the winters, when the hot-water pipes would freeze, they had to heat water for baths in kettles on the kitchen stove."

Jackie's mother pushed Jackie and her brother to focus on their goals. One day, Jackie saw a sign for a track program. Jackie joined the team. She lost every race. She kept practicing. Jackie began to win. While watching the Olympics, Jackie made up her mind. "I decided I wanted to go. I wanted to be on TV." She worked hard at racing. She beat her brother. Al was a strong runner.

©Julie Bocinski

When Jackie was 14, she won four national pentathlon championships. In high school, she was a star runner. She was also on the basketball team. She did well in school. Jackie earned a full scholarship to UCLA. In college, she won four national titles. She broke two world records. Jackie completed her college degree in 1985. She was inducted into the UCLA Hall of Fame.




**Jackie set long jump records at the 1988 US Olympic Trials.**

In 1986, Jackie made history at the Goodwill Games. She became the first woman to score 7,000 points in a heptathlon. In 1987, she won gold at the World Track and Field Championships. She broke another record at the 1988 Seoul Olympics. Jackie was the first American woman to win the Olympic gold in the heptathlon. Jackie was honored with a ticker tape parade in New York City.

Jackie competed in four more Olympics. She won nine Olympic medals. She won four World Championship medals. She won three Goodwill Games medals. She retired in 2001. Jackie became an author, motivational speaker, and businesswoman. Jackie was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame. She also joined the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame. She is one of the most successful female athletes in track and field history. Jackie is an inspiration to young people. Jackie Joyner-Kersee has shown us that with hard work, anything is possible.

©Julie Bocturo

780L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Jackie Joyner-Kersee

Jackie Joyner-Kersee is a name that will forever be remembered. She was one of the most influential track and field athletes in history. Jackie Joyner-Kersee is an inspiration for all. Her story is one of resilience, determination, hard work, and humility. These qualities have helped her both on and off the track. Jackie had an incredible journey from humble beginnings to becoming one of the greatest female athletes ever known.



**Jackie at the 2014 World Junior Championships in Athletics.**

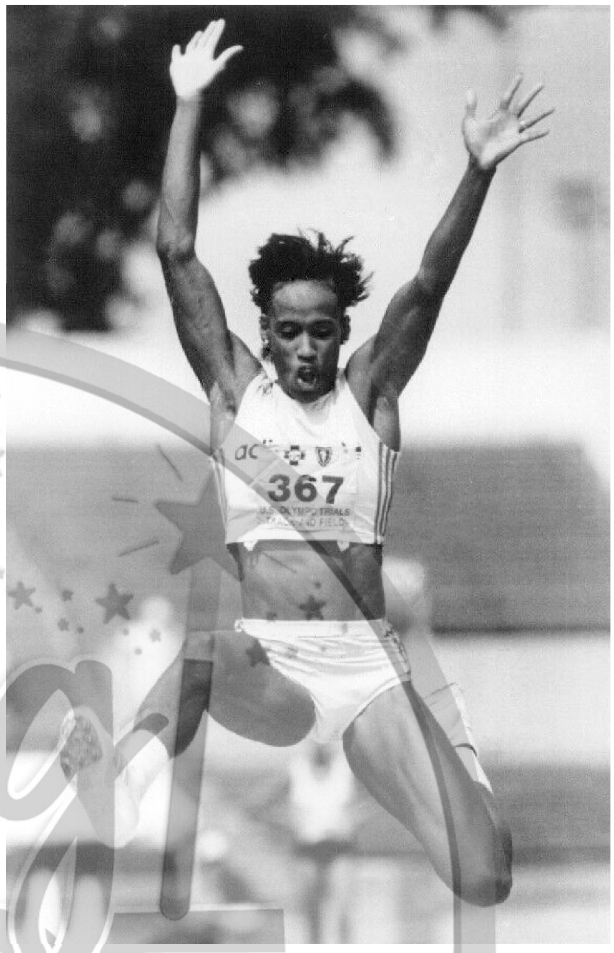
Jackie's parents, Alfred and Mary, were in their early teens when they got married. Mary was 14 when her first child, Al, was born. She was sixteen when Jackie was born in 1962. Jackie was named after the First Lady of the United States, Jacqueline Kennedy. Her grandmother hoped she would someday be the first lady of something. The Joyners lived in East St. Louis, Illinois. Their community was very poverty-stricken. Her parents worked hard to provide for the family. Her mother worked as a nurse's aide and her father was a railroad construction worker.

Jackie grew up in what she described as a "poor but happy home." She later recalled, "Their house was little more than wallpaper and sticks, with four tiny bedrooms. During the winters, when the hot-water pipes would freeze, they had to heat water for baths in kettles on the kitchen stove."

©Julie Bactows

Jackie's mother pushed Jackie and her brother to focus on their goals. One day, Jackie saw a sign for a track program. Jackie joined the team. She lost every race. She kept practicing. Jackie began to win. While watching the Olympics, Jackie made up her mind. "I decided I wanted to go. I wanted to be on TV." She worked hard at racing. She beat her brother. Al was a strong runner.

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**Jackie set long jump records at the 1988 US Olympic Trials.**

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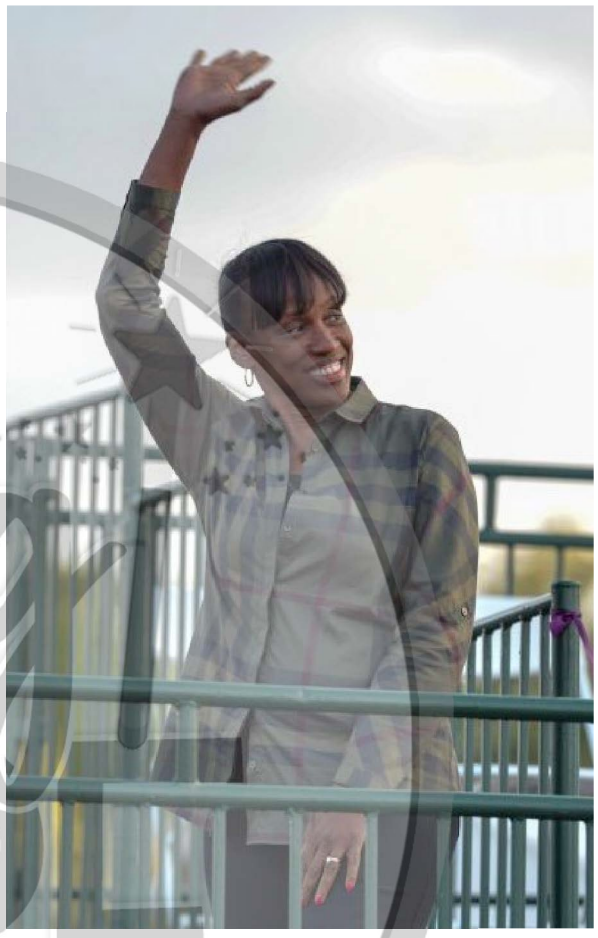
©Julie Bocharo

910L

Name: _____ Date: _____

# Jackie Joyner-Kersee

Jackie Joyner-Kersee is a name that will forever be remembered. She was one of the most influential and decorated track and field athletes in history. But beyond her remarkable athletic feats, Jackie Joyner-Kersee is an inspiration for all who strive to overcome adversity and achieve their dreams. Her story is one of resilience, determination, hard work, and humility. These qualities have helped her both on and off the track. Jackie had an incredible journey from humble beginnings to becoming one of the greatest female athletes ever known.



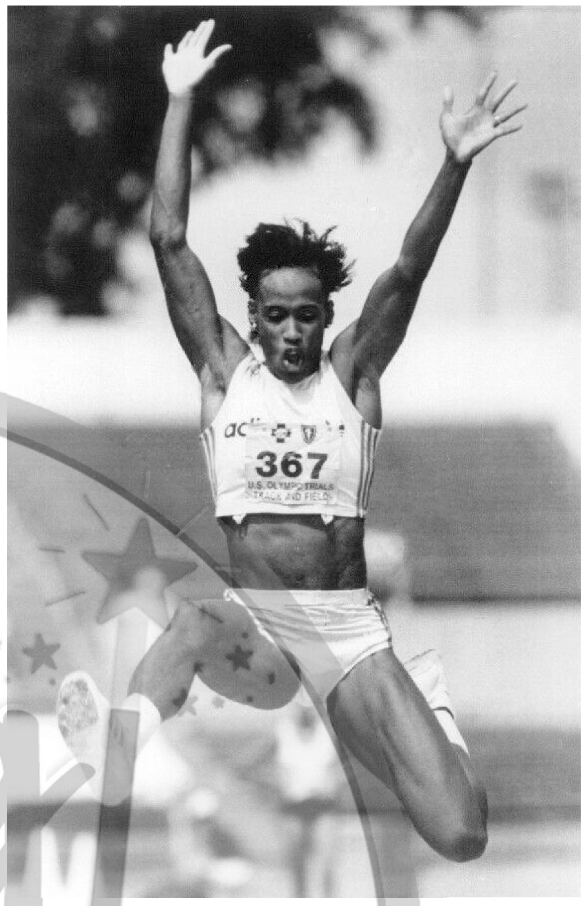
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Jackie grew up in what she described as a "poor but happy home." She later recalled, "Their house was little more than wallpaper and sticks, with four tiny bedrooms. During the winters, when the hot-water pipes would freeze, they had to heat water for baths in kettles on the kitchen stove."

©Julie Bocharo

Jackie's mother used her struggles to encourage Jackie and her brother to stay focused on their goals. One day, Jackie saw a sign for a track program that piqued her interest. Jackie joined the team. She initially lost every race. As she continued to practice, she began to win. In 1972, while watching the Olympics, Jackie said "I decided I wanted to go. I wanted to be on TV, too." She worked hard at racing, eventually beating her brother, who was also a strong runner.




Jackie set long jump records at the 1988 US Olympic Trials.

At the age of 14, Jackie won four national pentathlon championships. In high school, she excelled not only on the track but on the basketball team and in the classroom, as well. Jackie earned a full scholarship to UCLA. In college, she won four national titles in the heptathlon and broke two world records. Jackie completed her college degree in 1985. She was inducted into the UCLA Hall of Fame.

In 1986, Jackie made history at the Goodwill Games. She became the first woman to score 7,000 points in a heptathlon. In 1987, she won gold at the World Track and Field Championships in Rome. She was also the first American woman to win the Olympic gold medal in the heptathlon at the 1988 Seoul Olympics. After her victory, Jackie was honored with a ticker tape parade in New York City, becoming the first female athlete to ever receive one.

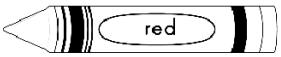
Jackie went on to compete in four more Olympics. During her long career, she won nine Olympic medals, four World Championship medals, and three Goodwill Games medals. After retiring from competition in 2001, she went on to become an author, motivational speaker, and businesswoman. Jackie has also been inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame. She is one of the most successful female athletes in track and field history and an inspiration to young people everywhere. Jackie Joyner-Kersee has shown us that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible.

©Mag Core

**Sports Stars** Name: _____ Date: _____

**Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is not a crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.**

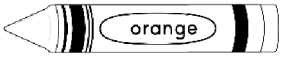
1. Describe the meaning behind Jackie's name.




_____

_____

2. Did Jackie receive support and encouragement throughout her childhood? How do you know? Cite evidence from the text to support your answer.




_____

_____

_____

3. What did Jackie do just after making history at the Goodwill Games?



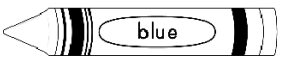

a. She won four national pentathlon championships.
b. She won gold at the World Track and Field Championships.
c. She won nine Olympic medals.
d. She was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame.

4. Goal setting was an important theme throughout Jackie's life and career. Detail Jackie's goal-setting journey and the ways she worked towards her goal.



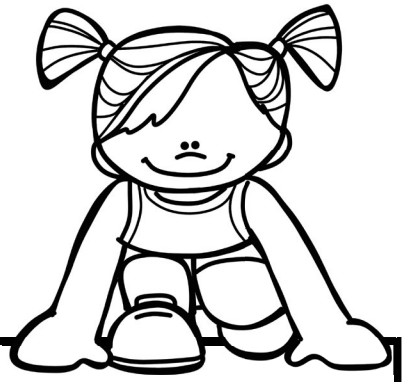

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **GOAL: Be a successful and legendary track star.** |

5. Read the following sentence from the text. What can you determine based on these details? *"One day, Jackie saw a sign for a track program. Jackie joined the team. She lost every race. She kept practicing. Jackie began to win."*




a. Jackie takes things seriously and won't accept a loss.
b. Jackie expressed interest in racing later in life.
c. Jackie was a natural at track.
d. Jackie is tenacious and hard working..

©Gail Bachus



# TIMELINE

Make a timeline sequencing Jackie's life. Include details and dates from the text.

©Julie Backus

# JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE RESPONSE

How did Jackie demonstrate and exemplify the value of determination throughout her life? What does determination really mean and how did Jackie model determination? Where did this determination lead? In your response, use evidence from the text to demonstrate how Jackie exemplified determination.



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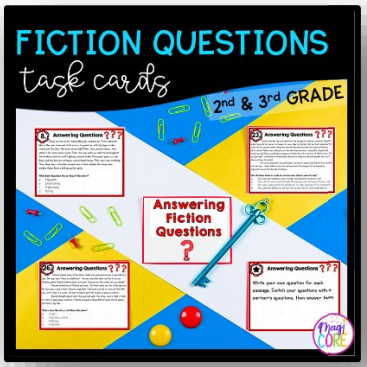
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