

Name:

Date:

Class:

## Sports

### Reading Comprehension

Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions.

#### Reading Passage 1

#### Chinese in the NBA

Yao Ming is the first Chinese player to be seen in the NBA's **locker** rooms. The appearance of Yao on the Houston Rockets **amazed** the fans. They did not think a Chinese player could handle playing in the NBA. They were wrong.

- 5 Yao is **gigantic**—2.29 meters, or 7 feet and 6 inches. This, of course, is very helpful when he is playing basketball. He is a very **capable** player. The NBA is a tense place to compete, but Yao has a **favorable** reputation among other players for being friendly and cheerful. Also, he often passes the ball to other players, rather than trying to
- 10 score all of the points himself. These characteristics have made him popular among players and fans.



- Yao's parents were both basketball players and served as his coaches when he was young. He grew up with an **outstanding capacity** for the game. During his childhood, playing basketball was not a goal, but just a form of **recreation**. However, by the age of ten,
- 15 he was playing on a team. Although Yao is a great player, the competition is very strong and the **pace** of NBA games is very fast. Maybe because of his size, Yao is not as **swift** as some other players, but he is very **aggressive** when shooting and passing. *Injuries* are always a problem for athletes, and Yao did not play for several months after he **injured** his foot.

- When the **whistle** blows to start the game, the **gymnasium** shakes with the sound of
- 20 the crowd, and the smell of **sweat** fills the air. The fans watch in *amazement* as Yao and his team play an exciting game of basketball.

#### Vocabulary



<b>aggressive:</b> [ə'ɡresɪv] <i>adj</i> 有幹勁的	<b>injure:</b> ['ɪndʒə] <i>v</i> 使受傷
<b>amaze:</b> [ə'meɪz] <i>v</i> 使驚奇	<b>injury:</b> ['ɪndʒəri] <i>n</i> 損傷
<b>amazement:</b> [ə'meɪzmənt] <i>n</i> 驚訝	<b>locker:</b> ['lɒkə] <i>n</i> 衣物櫃
<b>capacity:</b> [kə'pæsəti] <i>n</i> 能力	<b>outstanding:</b> [ˈaʊt'stændɪŋ] <i>adj</i> 出眾的
<b>capable:</b> ['keɪpəbl] <i>adj</i> 有能力的	<b>pace:</b> [peɪs] <i>n</i> 速度
<b>fan:</b> [fæn] <i>n</i> 迷	<b>recreation:</b> [,rekri'eɪʃən] <i>n</i> 娛樂、消遣
<b>favorable:</b> ['feɪvərəbl] <i>adj</i> 討人喜歡的	<b>sweat:</b> [swet] <i>n</i> 汗水
<b>gigantic:</b> [dʒaɪ'ɡæntɪk] <i>adj</i> 巨人似的	<b>swift:</b> [swɪft] <i>adj</i> 迅速的
<b>gymnasium:</b> [dʒɪm'neɪzɪəm] <i>n</i> 體育館	<b>whistle:</b> ['hwɪsl] <i>n</i> 哨子

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**Reading Comprehension**

*Choose the correct answers.*

**Main Idea**

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
- (A) Difficulties Yao had when living in the U.S.  
(B) How injuries have affected Yao's playing.  
(C) Yao's development as a basketball player.  
(D) The return of Yao to China for the Olympics.

**Supporting Idea**

2. How did Yao get interested in basketball?
- (A) He started playing it at school.  
(B) His parents both played basketball.  
(C) He saw it on a vacation to the U.S.  
(D) His brother played for the NBA.

**Multiple Choice**

*Choose the correct answers.*

1. Joseph is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ athlete who has better skills than the other players on the team.
- (A) outstanding      (B) favorable      (C) swift      (D) gigantic
2. Clarence \_\_\_\_\_ his knee when he slipped on the ice.
- (A) pace      (B) sweat      (C) amazed      (D) injured
3. Winning the game \_\_\_\_\_ everyone, because the team did not play very well.
- (A) amazed      (B) injured      (C) sweat      (D) fan
4. Scott is too \_\_\_\_\_. The rest of us have a hard time keeping up.
- (A) favorable      (B) gigantic      (C) swift      (D) outstanding
5. At the sound of the \_\_\_\_\_ the game will begin.
- (A) recreation      (B) pace      (C) locker      (D) whistle
6. The school will build a new \_\_\_\_\_ for the students to play sports in.
- (A) sweat      (B) gymnasium  
(C) whistle      (D) capacity
7. You can leave your school clothes in the \_\_\_\_\_ when we play basketball.
- (A) gymnasium      (B) locker      (C) whistle      (D) sweat

## Reading Passage 2

### Sports and Health

In sports events all over the world, men and women lift weights, **leap** through the air, and **toss** balls. Tennis players hit shots across the net with great **accuracy**, and football players try to score points and avoid **penalties** in the *championship*. These events are often  
5 held in a huge **stadium** or on open fields of grass. The purpose of these games is to beat others and to win **awards** or prizes.



But competing or being a **champion** is not the only thing that **motivates** us to participate in sports. It is about having fun and improving our health. We should exercise often—at least three to five times a week.  
10 We do not have to be as *accurate* as the champions. Our award is the increased strength, loss of weight, healthier mind, and increased ability to fight disease. However, playing sports is not the only thing we need. **Apart** from exercise, we should also eat properly and watch our diet. Of course everyone knows that all forms of tobacco are poison—they will kill us. It is also good to get regular **medical** exams. This is especially important before beginning an  
15 exercise program.

We can get together with a **handful** of people and play such sports as volleyball, basketball, golf, or **cricket**. There are also a number of **individual** activities that we can **engage** in, such as running, riding a bicycle, or walking. You may like to **dive** into a pool and swim several hundred meters (although you should go with a partner for safety).  
20 Whether it is with a group or by yourself, find a sport that you enjoy and engage in it often. So, what is your *motivation* for all this effort? You will not win any prizes, but your life will be better.



#### Vocabulary



<b>accuracy:</b> [ˈækjərəsɪ] <i>n</i> 精確性	<b>handful:</b> [ˈhændfʊl] <i>n</i> 少量
<i>accurate:</i> [ˈækjərɪt] <i>adj</i> 準確的	<b>individual:</b> [ˌɪndəˈvɪdʒʊəl] <i>adj</i> 個人的、單獨的
<b>apart:</b> [əˈpɑːt] <i>prep</i> 除外	<b>leap:</b> [li:p] <i>v</i> 跳越
<b>award:</b> [əˈwɔːd] <i>n</i> 獎項	<b>medical:</b> [ˈmedɪkəl] <i>adj</i> 醫學的
<b>champion:</b> [ˈtʃæmpɪən] <i>n</i> 冠軍	<b>motivate:</b> [ˈmɒtəˌvet] <i>v</i> 推動、激發
<i>championship:</i> [ˈtʃæmpɪənˌʃɪp] <i>n</i> 錦標賽	<i>motivation:</i> [ˌmɒtəˈveɪʃən] <i>n</i> 推動
<b>cricket:</b> [ˈkrɪkɪt] <i>n</i> 板球	<b>penalty:</b> [ˈpenəl̩tɪ] <i>n</i> 處罰
<b>dive:</b> [daɪv] <i>v</i> 潛水	<b>stadium:</b> [ˈstediəm] <i>n</i> 運動場
<b>engage:</b> [ɪnˈɡedʒ] <i>v</i> 從事	<b>toss:</b> [tɒs] <i>v</i> 投、拋



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**Reading Comprehension**

*Choose the correct answers.*

**Inference**

1. Why does the passage say we will **NOT** win any prizes for playing sports?

- (A) Most of us are not very good at sports.
- (B) We are exercising, not competing.
- (C) Very few people ever win a prize.
- (D) Most sports do not offer prizes.

**Supporting Idea**

2. Which of the following is **NOT** listed as something you need to think about?

- (A) Exercising with others.
- (B) Never exercising at night.
- (C) Watching what you eat.
- (D) Getting regular exercise.

**Detailed Information**

3. It would be better to have someone with you on some individual sports to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) talk to while you exercise
- (B) encourage you to keep on
- (C) help you if you get hurt
- (D) show you how to exercise

**CLOZE Passage**

*Put the letters for the correct words in the blanks.*

Tommy's dream had finally come true. He had always wanted to be a great soccer player, and tonight he was going to play in the game that would decide the state   1  . It had taken Tommy a long time to make it as a soccer player. He had practiced for many years and played with smaller clubs before getting on a big team. It was all very tiring, but the thought of becoming a famous player   2   him. His hard work finally paid off. Now he was considered one of the best players on the field because of his   3   passing and shooting. He was also a team player, making sure to pass the ball often. Plus, he very rarely got any   4  , which would give the other team an easy chance to score. Tonight was the big night—his chance to help his team win it all. As Tommy looked around the   5  , he knew that this would be a night that he would never forget.

- (A) engaged      (B) accuracy      (C) crickets      (D) penalties
- (E) motivated      (F) champions      (G) individual      (H) stadium

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_