

# Black History

## JESSE OWENS



### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

as Jesse Owens was born in Alabama, he grew up in Arizona.

### JESSE OWENS



Jesse Owens was an American track and field athlete who competed in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany. He won four gold medals in the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash, the long jump, and as part of the 4x100 meter relay team, setting new world records in the process. He was born James Cleveland Owens on September 1932, in Oakville, Alabama, and he died on March 1980, in Tucson, Arizona.

Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics was significant because it challenged the notion of Aryan supremacy, a belief promoted by the Nazi regime in Germany at the time. Owens, who was African American, won gold medals in front of Adolf Hitler, who had intended to use the games to showcase the supposed superiority of the Aryan race. Owens' achievements were not only a personal victory for him but also a symbol of hope and inspiration for people around the world.

After the 1936 Olympics, Owens returned to the United States to a hero's welcome and went on a tour, giving speeches and participating in exhibition races. However, he faced discrimination and was not allowed to stay in the hotel where the athletes were housed.

Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics was significant because it challenged the notion of Aryan supremacy, a belief promoted by the Nazi regime in Germany at the time. Owens, who was African American, won gold medals in front of Adolf Hitler, who had intended to use the games to showcase the supposed superiority of the Aryan race. Owens' achievements were not only a personal victory for him but also a symbol of hope and inspiration for people around the world.

# NO-PREP

continue to inspire individuals today. He was not only an athlete, but also a civil rights activist.

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

as Jesse Owens was born in Alabama, he grew up in Arizona.

- Which U.S. President was elected in 1976?
- A) Richard Nixon
  - B) John F. Kennedy
  - C) Gerald Ford
  - D) Jimmy Carter

# READING COMPREHENSION

# READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

Ready to Print

## JESSE OWENS



Jesse Owens was an American track and field athlete who competed in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany. He won four gold medals in the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash, the long jump, and as part of the 4x100 meter relay team, setting new world records in the process. He was born James Cleveland Owens on September 1913, 12, in Oakville, Alabama, and he died on March 1980, 31, in Tucson, Arizona.

Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics was significant because it challenged the notion of Aryan supremacy, a belief promoted by the Nazi regime in Germany at the time. Owens, who was African American, won gold medals in front of Adolf Hitler, who had intended to use the games to showcase the supposed superiority of the Aryan race. Owens' achievements were not only a personal victory for him but also a symbol of hope and inspiration for people around the world.

After the 1936 Olympics, Owens returned to the United States to a hero's welcome and went on a tour, giving speeches and participating in exhibition races. However, he faced difficulties in finding work and was forced to race against horses and cars to make a living. Despite these struggles, Owens continued to inspire others through his athletic achievements and his work as a civil rights advocate. In 1976, President Gerald Ford presented Owens with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States.

In conclusion, Jesse Owens was a legendary track and field athlete who broke records and challenged notions of racial superiority during the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. His achievements on the field, as well as his perseverance and dedication, continue to inspire individuals today. He was not only an athlete, but also a civil rights activist who left a lasting legacy in the world of sports and beyond.

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- What challenging belief did Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin directly challenge?
  - A) Communism
  - B) Racial segregation
  - C) Aryan supremacy
  - D) Capitalism
- After the 1936 Olympics, how did Jesse Owens make a living, facing difficulties in finding work?

## ANSWERS

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### THE CORRECT ANSWER

Owens born?

a

y

na

Jesse Owens compete in the Olympic Games in Berlin?

medals did Jesse Owens win at the 1936 Olympics?

- Who was the leader of Nazi Germany during the 1936 Olympics where Jesse Owens won gold medals?

- A) Winston Churchill
- B) Joseph Stalin
- C) Franklin D. Roosevelt
- D) Adolf Hitler

- Which U.S. President presented Jesse Owens with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1976?

- A) Richard Nixon
- B) John F. Kennedy
- C) Gerald Ford
- D) Jimmy Carter

READING  
COMPREHENSION

## ANSWERS

- Where was Jesse Owens born?  
- Answer: C) Oakville, Alabama
- In which year did Jesse Owens compete in the 1936 Olympics?  
- Answer: B) 1913
- How many gold medals did Jesse Owens win at the 1936 Olympics?  
- Answer: C) Four
- Who was the leader of Nazi Germany during the 1936 Olympics?  
- Answer: D) Adolf Hitler
- Which U.S. President presented Jesse Owens with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1976?  
- Answer: C) Gerald Ford
- What challenging belief did Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin directly challenge?  
- Answer: C) Aryan supremacy
- After the 1936 Olympics, how did Jesse Owens make a living, facing difficulties in finding work?  
- Answer: D) September 5, 1980
- When did Jesse Owens pass away?  
- Answer: D) September 5, 1980
- What was the significance of Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin?  
- Answer: B) It challenged notions of racial superiority
- What is the highest civilian honor in the United States?  
- Answer: C) Presidential Medal of Freedom

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

- Where was Jesse Owens born?
  - A) Tucson, Arizona
  - B) Berlin, Germany
  - C) Oakville, Alabama
  - D) Berlin, Alabama
- In which year did Jesse Owens compete in the Olympic Games in Berlin?
  - A) 1932
  - B) 1936
  - C) 1940
  - D) 1944
- How many gold medals did Jesse Owens win at the 1936 Olympics?
  - A) Two
  - B) Three
  - C) Four
  - D) Five

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- What challenging belief did Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin directly challenge?
  - A) Racism
  - B) Democracy
  - C) Capitalism
  - D) Socialism

Olympics, how did Jesse Owens make a living, facing difficulties

time  
track and field  
great horses and cars  
business

Jesse Owens pass away?

1976

September 31, 1980

June 12, 1976

June 12, 1980

the significance of Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin?

It Nazi Germany's intentions for the games?

It promoted Aryan supremacy

It challenged notions of racial superiority

It showcased the strength of communism

It promoted the ideals of fascism

What is the highest civilian honor in the United States that Jesse Owens received?

1976?

Congressional Gold Medal

Medal of Honor

Presidential Medal of Freedom

National Humanities Medal

## ANSWERS

- Where was Jesse Owens born?
  - Answer: C) Oakville, Alabama
- In which year did Jesse Owens compete in the Olympic Games in Berlin?
  - Answer: B) 1936
- How many gold medals did Jesse Owens win at the 1936 Olympics where Jesse Owens competed?
  - Answer: C) Four
- Who was the leader of Nazi Germany during the 1936 Olympics where Jesse Owens won gold medals?
  - Answer: D) Adolf Hitler
- In which year did Jesse Owens present the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the 1936 Olympic team?
  - Answer: C) Gerald Ford
- What challenging belief did Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin directly challenge?
  - Answer: C) Aryan supremacy
- After the 1936 Olympics, how did Jesse Owens make a living, facing difficulties?
  - Answer: C) Racing against horses and cars
- When did Jesse Owens pass away?
  - Answer: C) September 12, 1980
- What was the significance of Jesse Owens' success at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin?
  - Answer: B) It challenged notions of racial superiority
- What is the highest civilian honor in the United States that Jesse Owens received?
  - Answer: C) Presidential Medal of Freedom

1936 Olympics where Jesse

Presidential Medal of

MCQ'S &  
QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY  
INCLUDED

# CLOSE READING GRAPHIC ORGNIZERS INCLUDED

**GROUP ACTIVITY**

TITLE OF TEXT \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT I THINK \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNOTATING MARKS**

- ✓ Circle powerful words or phrases.
- ✓ Underline words or phrases you do not understand.
- ✓ Place a question mark next to something you don't understand.
- ✓ Write an exclamation mark next to something you find interesting.

**SUMMARIZE**

Write a summary of the passage. The main idea should be stated in your first sentence. Then use the four details to write four supporting sentences. Close your summary by restating the main idea.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIN IDEA**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF TEXT \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORTING DETAILS #1 \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORTING DETAILS #2 \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPORTING DETAILS #3 \_\_\_\_\_

**VOCABULARY GRAPHIC ORGNIZER**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF TEXT \_\_\_\_\_

UNKNOWN WORD \_\_\_\_\_

CLUES FROM TEXT & MEANING \_\_\_\_\_

UNKNOWN WORD \_\_\_\_\_

CLUES FROM TEXT & MEANING \_\_\_\_\_

UNKNOWN WORD \_\_\_\_\_

CLUES FROM TEXT & MEANING \_\_\_\_\_