

All About

# KENTUCKY DERBY

## READING COMPREHENSION

NO-PREP &

EDITABLE



READING COMPREHENSION  
MCQ'S  
QUESTIONS  
ANSWER KEY

## READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

### THE KENTUCKY DERBY

The Kentucky Derby, often referred to as "The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports," is a prestigious horse racing event steeped in history, tradition, and pageantry. Held annually on the first Saturday in May at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky, the Derby captivates audiences around the world with its thrilling races, timeless fashion, and vibrant atmosphere. Let's explore the allure of the Kentucky Derby and the traditions that make it a beloved spectacle.



#### A RICH HISTORY

The Kentucky Derby has a storied history dating back to its inaugural running in 1875, making it one of the oldest continuously held sporting events in the United States. Named after the founder of the Derby, Meriwether Lewis Clark Jr., the race has become a symbol of Kentucky's rich horse racing heritage and cultural legacy. Over the years,

the Derby has evolved into a prestigious event that attracts top-thoroughbred horses, jockeys, and trainers from around the world.

#### THE RUN FOR THE ROSES

At the heart of the Kentucky Derby is the iconic race itself, known as the "Run for the Roses." Held over a distance of one and a quarter miles, the Derby tests the speed, stamina, and skill of the finest three-year-old thoroughbred horses. With a purse of several million dollars and a prestigious garland of red roses awaiting the winner, the Derby represents the pinnacle of achievement in horse racing and is coveted by owners, breeders, and trainers alike.

Ready to Print &  
Editable



#### TRADITIONS AND PAGEANTRY

The Kentucky Derby is steeped in traditions and pageantry that add to its allure and charm. From the playing of "My Old Kentucky Home" to the iconic call of "And they're off!" by the track announcer, each aspect of the Derby is imbued with a sense of history and significance. Attendees dress in their finest attire, with women donning elaborate hats and men sporting seersucker suits and bow ties, creating a spectacle of elegance and sophistication.

#### A FESTIVAL OF FASHION

The Kentucky Derby is as much a fashion event as it is a sporting spectacle. Attendees showcase their sartorial flair and creativity with stylish outfits and extravagant hats, transforming Churchill Downs into a runway of high fashion and glamour. From bold colors and floral patterns to statement accessories and eye-catching headwear, Derby fashion is a celebration of individuality and elegance that adds to the event's festive atmosphere.

#### A CULINARY EXPERIENCE

No Kentucky Derby experience would be complete without indulging in the culinary delights that accompany the festivities. From traditional Southern fare like mint juleps, hot browns, and bourbon-infused delicacies to gourmet cuisine served in exclusive dining areas, the Derby offers a culinary experience that is as rich and flavorful as the race itself. Whether savoring classic Derby dishes or exploring innovative culinary creations, attendees are treated to a feast for the senses that complements the excitement of the races.

#### CONCLUSION

The Kentucky Derby is more than just a horse race; it is a timeless tradition that embodies the spirit of elegance, excitement, and camaraderie. As spectators gather at Churchill Downs to witness the "Run for the Roses" and partake in the festivities, they become part of a legacy that spans generations and transcends boundaries. Whether cheering on their favorite horses, admiring the fashion, or savoring the culinary delights, attendees of the Kentucky Derby are united in their appreciation for this iconic event and the enduring traditions that make it a cherished spectacle year after year.

READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W  
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# THE KENTUCKY DERBY

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. When is the Kentucky Derby typically held?  
A) Second Saturday in May  
B) First Saturday in May  
C) Last Saturday in April  
D) Third Saturday in May
2. What is the Kentucky Derby often referred to as?  
A) The Most Exciting Two Hours in Sports  
B) The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports  
C) The Longest Race in Sports  
D) The Grandest Race in Sports
3. What is the purse for the Kentucky Derby?  
A) Several thousand dollars  
B) Several hundred thousand dollars  
C) Several million dollars  
D) No purse is mentioned in the passage
4. What song is traditionally played at the Kentucky Derby?  
A) "My Old Kentucky Home"  
B) "The Star-Spangled Banner"  
C) "God Bless America"  
D) "Take Me Out to the Ballgame"
5. What attire do attendees typically wear at the Kentucky Derby?  
A) Casual attire  
B) Business suits  
C) Elaborate hats and seersucker suits  
D) Athletic wear

## SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What is the nickname often given to the Derby?
2. Where is the Kentucky Derby held?
3. What is the significance of the race?
4. How is Derby fashion described?
5. What culinary delights are associated with the Kentucky Derby?

5. What adds to the atmosphere and character of the Derby according to the passage?  
A) The absence of traditions  
B) The lack of spectators  
C) The playing of "My Old Kentucky Home"  
D) The simplicity of the event

2. What is a prominent aspect of Derby fashion according to the passage?  
A) Plain clothing  
B) Minimal accessories  
C) Elaborate hats and seersucker suits  
D) Neutral colors

3. What culinary delights are associated with the Kentucky Derby?  
A) Sushi and sashimi  
B) Hot jalapeño and hot brown  
C) Hamburgers and hot dogs  
D) Pecan pie

4. What is the significance of the race according to the passage?  
A) They are awarded to the winning jockey  
B) They are used to distribute the proceeds  
C) They are part of the winner's contract  
D) They are given to spectators

1. What is the main theme of the passage according to the passage?  
A) Casual attire and simple elegance  
B) Spectacular atmosphere and excitement  
C) Traditional elegance and excitement  
D) Minimalist and modern style

## ANSWER KEY

MCQ

1. B) Second Saturday in May
2. B) The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports
3. C) Several million dollars
4. C) "My Old Kentucky Home"
5. C) Elaborate hats and seersucker suits
6. C) The playing of "My Old Kentucky Home"
7. C) Elaborate hats and seersucker suits
8. B) Hot jalapeño and hot brown
9. C) They are part of the winner's contract
10. C) Traditional elegance and excitement

## SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. "The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports"
2. At Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky
3. It represents the pinnacle of achievement in horse racing and is coveted by owners, trainers, and jockeys alike.
4. Derby fashion is described as emphasizing traditional style and elegance with a mix of old-time and contemporary looks.
5. Hot jalapeño, hot brown, and pecan pie are mentioned.

ANSWER KEY  
INCLUDED

10 - MCQ'S & 5  
QUESTIONS

**READY TO PRINT**

**NO-PREP !**

**JUST PRINT AND GO!**



**EASY EDITING**

**EDITABLE**

**\* FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

