

Test C

The four-minute mile

It is the nature of athletic records that they are broken and their place is taken by new ones . Yet in many sports __ (1) __, there is a mark which is not __ (2) __ in itself, but which becomes a legend as athletes __ (3) __ to break it. The most __ (4) __ of these is the attempt to run the mile in __ (5) __ than four minutes. In 1945, the mile record was __ (6) __ to 4 minutes, 1.5 seconds. And there, for nine years, it stuck. Then, in 1954, a medical student __ (7) __ Roger Bannister decided to try and break the record. He had been __ (8) __ for this day since running the mile in 4 minutes, 2 seconds the __ (9) __ year. Two other runners set the pace for him, and __ (10) __ 250 yards to go he burst ahead for the finish. He wrote __ (11) __: 'My body had exhausted all its energy, but it __ (12) __ on running just the same. Those __ (13) __ few seconds seemed never-ending. I could see the line of the finishing tape. I jumped like a man making a desperate attempt to save himself from danger. 'Bannister's time was 3 minutes, 59.4 seconds. __ (14) __ this record has been broken on many __ (15) __ since, Bannister's achievement will never be forgotten.

1. A) happenings B) events C) games
D) matches
2. A) central B) major C) significant
D) considerable
3. A) try B) try on C) try out D) try for
4. A) known B) public C) noticeable D) famous
5. A) smaller B) less C) lower D) under
6. A) broken down B) lessened C) decreased
D) brought down
7. A) entitled B) called C) nicknamed D) known
8. A) trying B) studying C) running D) training
9. A) early B) previous C) past D) former
10. A) on B) in C) with D) by
11. A) afterwards B) then C) next D) after
12. A) went B) continued C) ran D) got
13. A) last B) late C) latest D) later
14. A) But B) In spite of C) However
D) Although
15. A) accidents B) times C) occasions
D) incidents