HỌC TỪ VỰNG

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PASSAGE 2

Questions 11-20

15 minutes

GHI CHÚ

Các câu hỏi dễ hơn cần ưu tiên trả lời đúng

★ Câu hỏi thông tin chi tiết: **12, 13, 14, 16, 18**

★ Câu hỏi tham chiếu: **15**

★ Câu hỏi từ vựng: **17**

★ Câu hỏi ý chính: **11**

In what is probably the first memorable sporting action photo, we see a tiny man with a moustache, bent backwards, eyes closing in exhaustion, a handkerchief slipping off his head, surrounded by officials as he finishes the marathon at the London Olympics of 1908. [A] The man was Dorando Pietri, an Italian baker. In many ways, this was the beginning of global media coverage for big sporting events, and Pietri became the first global sporting celebrity. [B]

Early last century, when Pietri began running in his home town of Carpi in northern Italy, the ancient Greek idea of the marathon race was just being rediscovered. The course for the London Games was set by Britain's Queen Alexandra, who decided that for her grandchildren's convenience, the race should start beneath the nursery window at their home, Windsor Castle. The finish line in London's White City stadium was 26 miles and 385 yards away - which remains the marathon's official distance today.

Back then, the best preparation for running a marathon was believed to be steak for breakfast. Pietri had also taken a chemical called strychnine - today typically used in rat poison - in the mistaken belief that it would improve his performance. By the

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time he approached White City he understandably felt a little unwell. He later recalled seeing 'a grey mass in front', which proved to be the stadium. He added, 'After that, I remember little.'

It soon became obvious that Pietri was struggling. He began running the wrong way around the track. When officials pointed **this** out to him, he fell over. He got up, then collapsed again. Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, was watching from a few metres away, reporting for the Daily Mail. He wrote: 'It is horrible, and yet fascinating, this struggle between a set purpose and an utterly exhausted frame.'

The crowd - including Queen Alexandra - began urging the officials to help Pietri. Pietri kept collapsing, but eventually they practically pushed him across the finish line. Conan Doyle was impressed: 'No ancient Roman had known how to accept the laurels of victory better than Pietri.' Seconds after Pietri, the American runner Johnny Hayes, a sales clerk at Bloomingdale's department store in New York, trotted over the line. Quite naturally, Hayes pointed out that Pietri had been helped, which was against the rules. After much debate, Hayes was declared the winner. Pietri fell unconscious, and several newspapers **prematurely** reported his death.

There is no celebrity without mass media. If you could choose anyone on earth to write up your drama in 1908, it would be Conan Doyle in the Daily Mail, which in 1902 had become the bestselling newspaper on earth, with circulation topping one million. Newspapers around the world reprinted Conan Doyle's article. He also started a collection to help Pietri set up his own bakery. Throw in the startling action picture by an unknown photographer, and Pietri's story went global.

[C] Nowadays people dressed in Donald Duck costumes run double marathons for charity, but in 1908 completing a marathon was considered an almost superhuman feat. [D] To my mind, that distinguishes Pietri from the Olympic heroes of today. Most of them have lived since childhood in a higher realm of top-performance sport. They are better prepared than Pietri in every way, but it is much easier to see ourselves in him.

11 What can be the best title for the passage?

A. the original Olympic hero

B. the length of ancient Olympic marathon

C. the history of Olympic Games.

D. preparation for Olympic marathon

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12 What is true about the length of the modern marathon race?

A. it was based on measurements used in ancient games.

B. it used to be changed quite often at the Olympic Games.

C. it used to be much longer than it is in the current Games.

D. it was originally fixed at the 1908 London Olympic Games.

13 What is mentioned about Pietri's preparation for the race?

A. it had ignored expert advice.

B. it hadn't really been appropriate.

C. it had been interrupted by illness.

D. it had not involved running the course itself.

14 Where did Pietri come from?

A. Britain B. Greece

C. Italy D. the US

15 The word '**this**' in paragraph 4 refers to

A. Pietri's state of health.

B. an error which Pietri made.

C. an attempt to give Pietri first aid.

D. the correct direction in which Pietri should run.

16 What impressed Sir Arthur Conan Doyle about the end of the race?

A. Pietri's determination to finish it.

B. Pietri's willingness to accept defeat.

C. The way Pietri was helped to complete it.

D. The respect which Pietri showed for the rules.

17 The word '**prematurely**' in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to

A. surprisingly B. too soon

C. immediately D. finally

18 What does the author suggest in paragraph 6?

A. Conan Doyle felt that he had treated Pietri badly.

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B. Pietri didn't approve of what was written about him.

C. Pietri benefitted from the fact that Conan Doyle was famous.

D. The photograph of Pietri was more important than the newspaper article.

19 What does the author want to express in paragraph 7?

A. admiration for Pietri's attempt at the marathon.

B. surprise that Pietri attracted so much media attention.

C. doubts about the commitment of some modern athletes.

D. disappointment with the way modern marathons are organised.

20 In which space (marked A, B, C and D in the passage) will the following sentence fit?

What moved the world in 1908 was the sight of an ordinary man attempting something extraordinary

A. [A] **B.** [B]

C. [C] **D.** [D]

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PASSAGE 3

Questions 21-30

15 minutes

GHI CHÚ

Các câu hỏi dễ hơn cần ưu tiên trả lời đúng

★ Câu hỏi thông tin chi tiết: **23, 26, 29**

★ Câu hỏi tham chiếu: **28**

★ Câu hỏi từ vựng: **22, 25**

★ Câu hỏi ý chính: **21**

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