

Name: _____

MUHAMMAD ALI READING GUIDE

Before you read, write down what you already know about Muhammad Ali in the "Knew" column.

As you read, fill in the information you learn about Muhammad Ali in the "New" column.

Knew	New

Comprehension Reading Questions

Refer back to the text *Muhammad Ali: The Greatest of All Time!* to respond to the questions below.

Remember to answer using complete sentences.

1. Who are Cassius and Rudy Clay? Why were they known as the "Wrecking Crew"? Use details from the text as well as the illustrations to help justify your answer. (RI.1/RI.7)

2. What event led to Cassius boxing? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (RI.1)

3. When Cassius first started boxing, Sam described him by saying, "...the young man took to it like a duck to water". What can you infer from this phrase? (RI.4)

Liked	Disliked

Name: _____

8. What physical effects did Muhammad Ali face at the age of 42 due to boxing? (RI.3)

9. After retiring from boxing, name three events that had a positive impact for Muslim Americans. (RI.2)

10. After reading the story, what do you think people will remember most about Ali today? (RI.1)

11. CHALLENGE QUESTION - In Louisville, the Muhammad Ali Center is a place visitors can go to experience Ali's life and beliefs. These are represented by six principles. What were those principles and provide one example of a time Ali demonstrated that principle?

Principle:

Example:

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

ANSWER KEY FOR MUHAMMAD ALI READING GUIDE

**The following are possible responses for grades 5-6. For grades 3-4, answers are not expected to be as detailed.
Be sure to scaffold and adjust as necessary.*

1. Who were Cassius and Rudy Clay? Why were they known as the "Wrecking Crew"? (RI.1)

Cassius was Muhammad Ali's birth name and Rudy Clay was his younger brother. They were known as the wrecking crew because they would run around their neighborhood causing trouble.

2. What event led to Cassius boxing? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (RI.1)

The event that led to Cassius boxing was his bike getting stolen. While very upset, he ended up asking an off-duty police officer for help. The officer noticed his anger and said, "...if you think you're going to whup someone, don't you think you should learn how?" It was then, he was introduced to boxing.

3. When Cassius first started boxing, Sam described him by saying, "...the young man took to it like a duck to water". What can you infer from this phrase? (RI.4)

The phrase "took to it like a duck to water" means that Muhammad Ali was a quick learner and that he was able to easily learn how to box, just like a duck can easily swim in water.

4. Cassius knew there was inequality amongst race and thought that he could influence positive change if he became famous and rich. So, he continued to impress and win his boxing matches, and he eventually made it to the Olympics. When he returned to Louisville, were things different? Explain your answer. (RI.1)

When Cassius returned to Louisville, things were not different. He was still refused service due to the color of his skin. Racism was still very prominent.

5. "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee". These words were used to describe Clay's fighting style. What do you think this means? (RI.4)

"Float like a butterfly" means that Clay was graceful and light on his feet, but "sting like a bee" means that he was able to hurt others with his effective punches.

6. What happened the day after Clay defeated Liston? How did people react? (RI.2)

The day after Clay defeated Liston, Clay announced that he was Muslim. Elijah Muhammad, a few weeks later, announced that Clay was now to be called Muhammed Ali. Many people were not accepting of this change and felt that Clay was setting the wrong example.

ANSWER KEY FOR MUHAMMAD ALI READING GUIDE (CON'T)

7. Muhammed Ali's actions were controversial. Identify the reasons why people liked and disliked Muhammad Ali.

Liked	Disliked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great boxer Inspiration for Black Americans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor example for young Americans American traitor

8. What physical effects did Muhammad Ali face at the age of 42 due to boxing? (RI.3)

Muhammad was experiencing the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease. Ali's speech started to slow down and slur, he had trouble moving, and he had the shakes.

9. After retiring from boxing, name three events that had a positive impact for Muslim Americans. (RI.2)

After retiring from boxing, Ali went to Iraq and brought back the fifteen American hostages Saddam Hussein captured. Then, after the 2001 terrorist attack, Ali spoke up for Muslims saying that the act did not represent Muslims. Later, in 2002, Ali was named A United Nations Messenger of Peace.

10. After reading the story, what do you think people will remember most about Ali today? (RI.1)

Answers will vary.

11. CHALLENGE QUESTION - In Louisville, the Muhammad Ali Center is a place visitors can go to experience Ali's life and beliefs. This is represented by six principles. What were those principles and provide one example of how Ali demonstrated that principle?

Possible answers below.

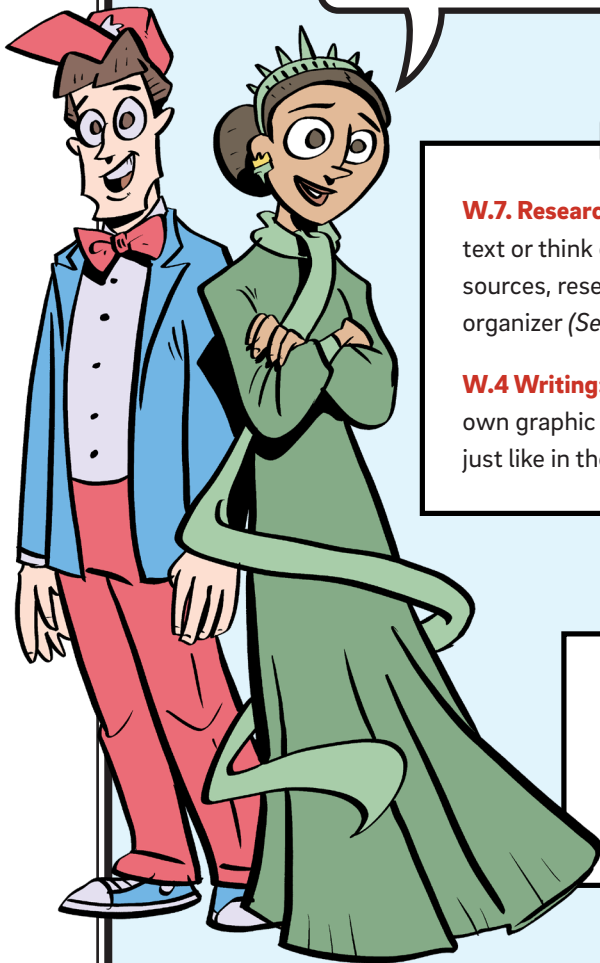
Principle:	Example:
1. Confidence	After his many victories, his confidence was shown when he said that he was not the greatest, but the double greatest.
2. Conviction	Ali showed conviction when he stood strong with his belief in Islam even though he received negative responses from others, especially during the war.
3. Dedication	Ali showed dedication when he continued to box and stand up for civil rights.
4. Giving	Ali made a lot of money in his career but donated much of it to those who needed it more than he did.
5. Respect	He showed respect towards Elijah Muhammad, his mentor, and to his son, Wallace, when he took over.
6. Spirituality	His spirituality was shown when he made the pilgrimage to Mecca for his religion.

SHOW ME HISTORY!

GRAPHIC
NOVELS

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The reading, writing, and social studies activities can be completed after reading any of the **Show Me History!** books.



WRITING

W.7. Research: After reading one of the books, choose a specific topic from the text or think of a question you want to learn more about. Using several credible sources, research that question or topic to understand more. Use this graphic organizer (See *Worksheet A*) to help guide your research.

W.4 Writing: Show Me YOUR History! On a separate piece of paper, create your own graphic about your history. Use illustrations and captions/speech bubbles just like in the **Show Me History!** books. (See *Worksheet B*)

READING

RI.9 Reading: Compare and contrast. Read a different book or article on the same topic (e.g., Amelia Earhart, Abraham Lincoln), and use the Venn diagram (See *Worksheet C*) to compare and contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another.

SOCIAL STUDIES


What If?: Using the timeline provided in the back of the book, choose one event and explain how it would have changed history if it had not happened. (See *Worksheet D*)

Compare/Contrast: Explain how life during that time period was different than life now. (See *Worksheet E*)

Name: _____

RESEARCH

After reading one of the books, choose a specific topic from the text or think of a question you want to learn more about. Using several credible sources, research that question or topic to understand more. Use this graphic organizer to help guide your research. (W.7)

Topic/question:

Source (website, book, article)	Information/facts that support or answer your topic/question

Answer/conclusion from your research:

Name: _____

WRITING

Create your own graphic about your history. Use illustrations and captions/speech bubbles just like in the Show Me History! books. (W.4)

Name: _____

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Read a different book or article on the same topic (e.g., Amelia Earhart, Abraham Lincoln), and use the Venn diagram to compare and contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another. (RI.9)

Show Me History! Book Title:

Different Book/Article Title:

Similarities:

Summarize: Using the similarities and differences in the diagram above, briefly summarize how the two authors presented the information.

SHOW ME HISTORY!

Using the timeline provided in the back of the book, choose one event and explain **how** it would have changed history if it had not happened.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

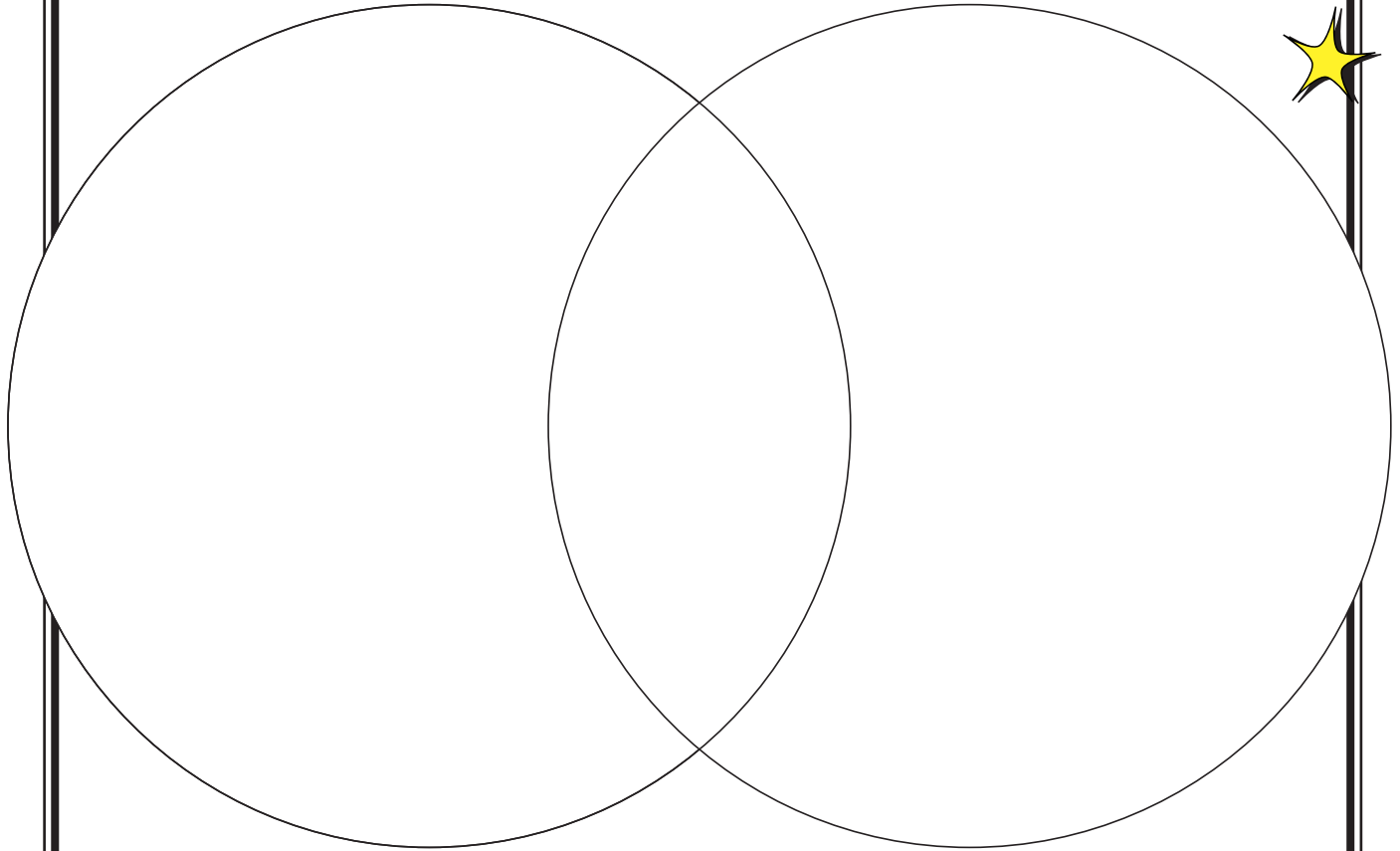
Name: _____

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

After reading the story, compare and contrast life during that time period to life now.
Use the events and details from the story and any prior knowledge of that time period.

Life Then

Life Now



Summarize: Using the diagram above, briefly explain how life during that time period was different than life now.
