

Lift

LEVEL 2 UNIT 5 Assessment

VOCABULARY

DIRECTIONS: Choose the correct answer.

- 1 The resolution / attitude / status of a problem solves the problem.
- 2 An arrogant / avid / intrinsic trait belongs naturally to someone or something.
- 3 Psychology is a discipline / notion / disbelief that focuses on the workings of the mind.
- 4 If the ground is disconnected / saturated / contagious, it cannot hold more water.
- 5 Tears often humiliate / suffocate / indicate that a person feels sad or upset.
- 6 A person with a positive *attitude* will likely
- (A) have a lot of life experience.
 - (B) expect good things to happen.
 - (C) give up easily on challenges.
 - (D) earn a lot of money.
- 7 The word *status* means
- (A) a government official or representative.
 - (B) information from print or digital references.
 - (C) a quality that is shared with relatives.
 - (D) position in comparison to others.
- 8 Another word for *notion* is
- (A) idea.
 - (B) argument.
 - (C) problem.
 - (D) identity.
- 9 People who are *arrogant*
- (A) try to solve problems for other people.
 - (B) feel shy when they are around other people.
 - (C) act as if they are better than other people.
 - (D) question other people's motivations.
- 10 The word *bitter* means
- (A) emotional.
 - (B) kind.
 - (C) curious.
 - (D) resentful.

- 11 People who *stutter*
- (A) make other people feel bad about themselves.
 - (B) have difficulty completing words.
 - (C) cannot hear well.
 - (D) interrupt other people when they are talking.
- 12 The word *suffocate* means
- (A) to be unable to breathe.
 - (B) to feel embarrassed.
 - (C) to have an irrational fear.
 - (D) to always try to win.
- 13 If someone makes a *pathetic* attempt, that attempt is
- (A) notable.
 - (B) shocking.
 - (C) worthless.
 - (D) questionable.
- 14 The word *humiliate* means
- (A) to laugh.
 - (B) to embarrass.
 - (C) to judge.
 - (D) to listen.
- 15 An *avid* reader would
- (A) read frequently and enthusiastically.
 - (B) criticize what they read.
 - (C) write about what they read.
 - (D) read only nonfiction genres.
- 16 The word *mania* means
- (A) unlikely attraction.
 - (B) unexplainable interest.
 - (C) excessive enthusiasm.
 - (D) uncontrollable sadness.
- 17 If laughter is *contagious*, it will
- (A) become louder.
 - (B) spread to other people.
 - (C) stop quickly.
 - (D) appear fake.
- 18 A person with *prestige* can be described as
- (A) unattractive.
 - (B) considerate.
 - (C) important.
 - (D) talented.
- 19 The word *expanse* means a(n)
- (A) large area.
 - (B) urgent need.
 - (C) group of people.
 - (D) demand for respect.
- 20 Which word describes the feeling that something could not be real or true?
- (A) disconnected
 - (B) perish
 - (C) saturated
 - (D) disbelief
- 21 When something *perishes*, it
- (A) moves apart from others.
 - (B) stops existing.
 - (C) grows much larger.
 - (D) becomes better than other things.
- 22 The word *disconnected* means
- (A) interested.
 - (B) respected.
 - (C) separated.
 - (D) invited.

READING

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Greatest Athletic Achievement

- 1 Sports fanatics love debating what is the greatest game, the greatest score, the greatest athletic achievement EVER. For soccer fans, it might be Pele’s win at the 1970 World Cup. For track and field fans, it might be Usain Bolt’s record-breaking runs. For gymnastics fans, it might be Simone Biles’s double backflip with a triple twist. For sheer athleticism, mental fortitude, and stunning achievement, my vote goes to a feat completed by someone who most have never even heard of: Alex Honnold.
- 2 If you follow the quirky world of elite mountain climbing, Honnold’s status as the world’s greatest climber is beyond question. In June of 2017, Honnold accomplished a feat that tops the list of most unbelievable climbs: completing a free-solo climb of El Capitan. Located in Yosemite National Park in California, El Capitan is a massive expanse of solid granite rising 3,000 feet into the air. It is also one of the most revered climbing faces in the world.
- 3 What does it mean to “free solo”? The answer explains why Honnold’s feat is so remarkable: he climbs without any ropes or gear to keep him safely secured to the mountain wall. In fact, free solo mountain climbing can be considered a different sport entirely from expedition climbing, like the ascent of Mt. Everest (Chomolungma) each spring. There are no teams or multi-day ascents. As its name suggests, free soloing is just the climber and the rock wall. Though several climbers already solo climbed El Capitan, they used ropes and gear, and most took several days. No one had the outrageous notion to climb entirely free of gear and completely alone. Even those outside the climbing world described this as “one of the great athletic feats of any kind, ever.”
- 4 Some might argue that other athletic feats are more impressive. For example, *Forbes* magazine named Roger Bannister’s 4-minute mile the greatest achievement in sports history. In 1954, Bannister, an English track athlete, ran a mile in 3 minutes and 59 seconds. This was the first time a human had run a mile so quickly. Others might argue that Eliud Kipchoge’s 2018 world record marathon time of 2 hours 1 minute is the epitome of fortitude and endurance. While both of these are great accomplishments, they pale in comparison to Honnold’s feat, especially when you factor in the physical and mental preparation, as well as the personal risk.
- 5 Honnold’s unique individual preparation, strength, and technical skill no doubt contributed to his success. He started climbing at age 5, and since his teens, he has methodically topped the most famous climbs of every free-soloist before him. In other words, he had been preparing himself for this mega-climb for years. As fellow climber Daniel Duane has written, “Honnold climbs more than anyone alive—endless thousands of feet, roped and unroped, all over the world.”

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- 6 Honnold rehearsed for this climb by working with gear for days on small tricky sections. He memorized long sequences of moves until the complex steps became automatic. In filmmaker Jimmy Chin's award-winning movie, *Free Solo*, we see Honnold physically preparing for the climb with endless exercises. We see him practicing pull-ups with just his fingertips! In the final weeks before his attempt, Honnold told Duane he climbed a smooth stretch of rock about 500 feet up, on rope, five times in a row, with only his feet. No hands. Imagine the courage that takes, not to speak of the physical strength!
- 7 Honnold's courage was clearly a factor in helping him achieve this feat. He simply did not let fear of falling enter his mind. As Chin recounts, "He had prepared in every way possible, and he functions best when the stakes are that high. . . . It was effortless. It was brilliant. I don't even know if he was breathing hard." Duane calls Honnold's feat "the human sublime—a performance so far beyond our current understanding of our physical and mental potential that it provokes a pleasurable sensation of mystified awe." In my book, his is absolutely the greatest athletic feat ever.

23 Which quote from "The Greatest Athletic Achievement" states the thesis, or claim?

- (A) Sports fanatics love debating what is the greatest game, the greatest score, the greatest athletic achievement EVER.
- (B) For soccer fans, it might be Pele's win at the 1970 World Cup.
- (C) For sheer athleticism, mental fortitude, and stunning achievement, my vote goes to a feat completed by someone who most have never even heard of: Alex Honnold.
- (D) If you follow the quirky world of elite mountain climbing, Honnold's status as the world's greatest climber is beyond question.

24 Which reason does the writer use to support the claim?

- (A) Honnold spent days rehearsing and working with gear to train for his climb.
- (B) Honnold's climb required physical strength, mental preparation, and courage.
- (C) Honnold free solo climbed El Capitan in a single day.
- (D) Jimmy Chin made an award-winning movie about Honnold's climb.

25 Which detail from "The Greatest Athletic Achievement" is a provable fact?

- (A) Located in Yosemite National Park in California, El Capitan is a massive expanse of solid granite rising 3,000 feet into the air.
- (B) It [El Capitan] is also one of the most revered climbing faces in the world.
- (C) While both of these are great accomplishments, they pale in comparison to Honnold's feat, especially when you factor in the physical and mental preparation, as well as the personal risk.
- (D) Imagine the courage that takes, not to speak of the physical strength!



- 26** In 3–5 sentences, evaluate the quotations included in the argument in “The Greatest Athletic Achievement.” Do they make the argument stronger? Why or why not?

- 27** In 3–5 sentences, share your analysis and evaluation of the reasons and evidence the writer uses to support the claim. What is a strength of the argument? What is a weakness?

- 28** In “The Greatest Athletic Achievement,” the writer describes Alex Honnold’s courage in facing a death-defying climb up El Capitan. Though few people have faced such high risk, everyone has had experiences that require courage.

In 3–5 sentences, make a connection to Honnold’s experience through a personal experience that required courage. Remember to connect to the emotion, not the details of the situation.



- 29** In 3–5 sentences, explain a personal connection you made to “The Greatest Athletic Achievement” that helped you better understand the subject or the writer.



READING

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Kon-Tiki Adventure

CHARACTERS

NARRATOR

THOR HEYERDAHL, Captain

HERMAN WATZINGER, Second-in-Command

KNUT HAUGLAND, Crew Member

BENGT DANIELSSON, Crew Member

ERIK HESSELBERG, Navigator

TORSTEIN RAABY, Radio Operator

NARRATOR. Thor Heyerdahl had a crazy idea. So now he and his crew are building a raft like no other—to prove a theory that only a man with great imagination could ever think of.

SCENE 1. Peru, South America, April 26, 1947

[Thor, Knut, Bengt, and Herman are building a small hut in the center of a simple wooden raft. Erik is painting a tiki mask on a large, rectangular sail. Torstein is repairing radio equipment.]

THOR. How close are we, Herman?

HERMAN. Close, Captain. The hut is almost finished. Then we need to run some last-minute tests of the radio equipment and load the supplies. The Americans sent canned food and dried provisions, as well as sleeping bags. They even gave us suntan lotion.

BENGT. My delicate Norwegian skin thanks them!

[Everyone but Thor laughs.]

THOR. We don't have any more time, Herman. The world is holding its collective breath to see my theory proved wrong. *[frustrated]* I know I'm right. Indigenous South Americans *had* to have traded with people from Polynesia, and they had to have used simple rafts to get there. *[forces a bitter laugh]* The evidence is *right there*, but no one believes me.

ERIK. *[gently]* We believe you, Captain.

THOR. I know you do, and I appreciate it. Let's hit the sack. We have another long day of work tomorrow.

[Crew exchanges glances.]

TORSTEIN. I still have a few more hours left in me, Captain.

[Others voice their agreement.]

THOR. *[amazed]* Really? Well, okay! Let's get back to work.

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NARRATOR. Thor's enthusiasm for the journey was contagious. On April 28, 1947, he and his crew eagerly pushed the raft into the Pacific Ocean.

SCENE 2. Somewhere in the Pacific, late spring 1947

KNUT. So tell me again—how, exactly, are we supposed to get to Polynesia if we can't steer the raft?

THOR. We're riding the wind and water currents, just like Indigenous people would have hundreds of years ago.

HERMAN. *[looking at the expanse of sea through a pair of binoculars]* Keep your eyes peeled, boys. There are some big waves headed our way.

[The men gently rock back and forth in unison. Their motions grow more pronounced as the waves get bigger. Suddenly, Herman tumbles overboard. Bengt reaches out a hand, but Herman is taken under by another huge wave. He is struggling and cannot speak.]

KNUT. *[holding one end of a thick rope]* Somebody grab the other end!

[Thor and Erik grab the other end of the rope. Hanging on to his end, Knut jumps into the water. After several tense moments, Thor and Erik reel in the rope. Knut drags Herman onto the raft.]

KNUT. *[to Herman]* Are you all right, my friend?

HERMAN. *[indicates status with a weak thumbs-up]*

SCENE 3. Tuamotu Islands, August 7, 1947

NARRATOR. After three months at sea, the Kon-Tiki's journey ended when the raft ran aground on a coral reef in the Tuamotu Islands.

[Men emerge from the water with a handful of belongings.]

HERMAN. Captain, the Kon-Tiki is pretty beat up. We don't have the supplies to repair her. I think her sailing days are done.

[Crew is dismayed. Thor doesn't seem bothered.]

THOR. That's just fine, Herman. Our sailing days happen to be done, too. Gentlemen, welcome to Polynesia.

[Everyone cheers.]

TORSTEIN. Those historians will have to believe you now, Captain.

THOR. I hope they do. But you know, we only proved that someone *could* sail from South America to the Polynesian Islands. Now it's their turn to find evidence that someone *did*. Mark my words, though, they'll be talking about us for a long time to come.

- 30** Read the list of characters from “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.”

From reading the list of characters, you can predict “The Kon-Tiki Adventure” will

- (A) involve sailing a vessel of some sort.
- (B) feature a dispute among crew members.
- (C) take place a long time ago.
- (D) end successfully.

- 31** Read the dialogue from “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.”

THOR. We don’t have any more time, Herman. The whole world is holding its collective breath to see my theory proved wrong. *[frustrated]* I know I’m right. Indigenous South Americans *had* to have traded with people from Polynesia, and they had to have used simple rafts to get there. *[forces a bitter laugh]* The evidence is *right there*, but no one believes me.

ERIK. *[gently]* We believe you, Captain.

What does this dialogue help to explain about Thor? Choose two answers.

- (A) Thor is an experienced captain but has never sailed on a raft.
- (B) Thor is desperate to prove that Indigenous South Americans sailed to Polynesia.
- (C) Thor expects his crew members to believe in him and his ideas.
- (D) Thor doubts his own theory and is afraid that people who don’t believe him are right.
- (E) Thor feels like the whole world is against him and wants him to fail on his mission.

- 32** Read the lines from Scene 2 of “The Kon-Tiki Adventure” which take place right after Herman is rescued from drowning.

KNUT. *[to Herman]* Are you all right, my friend?

HERMAN. *[indicates status with a weak thumbs-up]*

What do the stage directions tell about Herman?

- (A) He isn’t strong but will be okay.
- (B) He feels happy to be alive.
- (C) He doesn’t know how to swim.
- (D) He needs to see a doctor.

- 33** Read Scene 2 of “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.”

In 3–5 sentences, explain why the stage directions are important to this scene.



- 34** In 3–5 sentences, explain why the author divided the play into scenes and how those scenes work together.

- 35** Read the dialogue from “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.”

THOR. We don’t have any more time, Herman. The world is holding its collective breath to see my theory proved wrong. *[frustrated]* I know I’m right. Indigenous South Americans *had* to have traded with people from Polynesia, and they had to have used simple rafts to get there. *[forces a bitter laugh]* The evidence is *right there*, but no one believes me.

In 3–5 sentences, describe a personal connection you can make with how Thor is feeling.



FOCUS ON LANGUAGE

DIRECTIONS: Choose the correct answer.

36 Which is a compound sentence?

- (A) Because she loves photography, Aki enrolled in the class.
- (B) Anada, who lives next door, is a talented painter.
- (C) Varij has tried painting, but she prefers sculpture.
- (D) Whenever he has the chance, Duarte visits the museum.

37 Read the sentence from “The Greatest Athletic Achievement.”

He memorized long sequences of moves until the complex steps became automatic.

This is a compound / complex / compound-complex sentence.

38 Read the sentence from “The Greatest Athletic Achievement.”

Though several climbers already solo climbed El Capitan, they used ropes and gear, and most took several days.

This is a compound / complex / compound-complex sentence.

DIRECTIONS: Underline each independent clause once. Underline each coordinating conjunction or semicolon twice.

39 Bengt reaches out a hand, but Herman is taken under by another huge wave.

40 Free solo climbers take incredible risks; they can easily die from a small misstep.

41 Kids develop interests and communities, so they quickly establish their own identities.

42 Your identity consists of your beliefs and character traits, and everyone has a unique set of such traits.

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentences from “The Greatest Athletic Achievement” and “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.” Underline each independent clause once. Underline each dependent clause twice.

43 If you follow the quirky world of elite mountain climbing, Honnold’s status as the world’s greatest climber is beyond question.

44 The evidence is *right there*, but no one believes me.

45 He had prepared in every way possible, and he functions best when the stakes are that high.

GO ON 

DIRECTIONS: Use context clues to choose the best meaning of each underlined idiom.

- 46** Read the dialogue from “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.”

THOR. I know you do, and I appreciate it.
Let’s hit the sack. We have another long day of work tomorrow.

The idiom “hit the sack” means stay up late / continue working hard / go to bed.

- 47** Read the dialogue from “The Kon-Tiki Adventure.”

HERMAN. [*looking at the expanse of sea through a pair of binoculars*] Keep your eyes peeled, boys. There are some big waves headed our way.

The idiom “keep your eyes peeled” means open your eyes wide / watch carefully / protect your face.

- 48** Read the sentence.

Some people don’t mind snakes and spiders, but they make my skin crawl.

The idiom “make my skin crawl” means to feel disgust / anger / happiness.

- 49** Read the sentence.

After winning the soccer game, all the team members and their fans were on cloud nine.

The idiom “on cloud nine” means ready for the next game / extremely happy / exhausted from stress.

- 50** Read the sentences.

I thought the math test would be a piece of cake, but I was wrong. It was really challenging.

The idiom “a piece of cake” means long / fun / easy.

WRITING

- 51** Now that you have learned a little bit about how identity is shaped through experiences, situations, and other people, you can share what you have learned with someone younger than you. Write a letter to a younger friend, cousin, or sibling to share your thoughts about identity and about the importance of making good choices as you develop into the person you will be.

Your letter should include a greeting to the recipient, an introductory paragraph that provides context for your letter and tells why you are writing, body paragraphs that explain what you have learned and include specific examples, and a concluding paragraph that shares your advice about establishing identity. Remember to end with a closing and your signature. Write your letter in the space below.

This image shows a single 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.