

Vocabulary: Define the terms using Merriam Webster's website

Term/Part of Speech	Definition
resolutely	
regatta	
deign	
abrogate	
pugnacious	
prognostication	
unconscionable	
dour	
goad	
keel	
sartorial	
filch	
emanate	
fetid	
baleful	

turgid	
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Vocabulary Application: Choose eight of the words and write a paragraph applying the meaning of the terms contextually.

Historical Context Research: Research the 1936 Olympics. Summarize the relevant data you discover in a paragraph response. For historical responses, it is most appropriate to answer the who, what, when, where, why, and historical significance. You must include a citation.

End-of-text Citation: _____

Pre-reading Contextual Response: Answer the following prompt with a paragraph response

Describe what you consider to be the most athletic endeavor. Why is this the most arduous of athletic activities? (Do not use personal pronouns)

Passage Annotation: Read (reread) the following passages from the story. Annotate the text in the margins. Remember the general annotation guidelines.

(Brown 23)

All that, Ulbrickson knew, had to start here on this dock, with the boys who were now wandering off into the waning light. Somewhere among them- those green untested boys- lay much of the stock from which he would have to select a crew capable of going all the way. The trick would be to find which few of them had the potential for raw power, the nearly superhuman stamina, the indomitable willpower, and the intellectual capacity necessary to master the details of technique. And which of them, coupled improbably with all those other qualities, had the most important one; the ability to disregard his own ambitions, to throw his ego over the gunwales, to leave it swelling in the wake of his shell, and to pull, not just for himself, not just for glory, but for the other boys in the boat.

Paragraph Response: Ulbrickson determines that the ability to disregard one's own ambitions will be the key to a successful team. Is it possible to remove ego from a team sport? Explain why or why not and include supporting details.

Close Reading Two: Annotate the selection below in the margins (Brown 177-178)

Rowing is, in a number of ways, a sport of fundamental paradoxes. For one thing, an eight-oared racing shell- powered by unusually large and physically powerful men or women- is commanded, controlled, and directed by the smallest and least powerful person in the boat. The coxswain (nowadays a female in an otherwise all male crew) must have the force of character to look men or women twice his or her size the in the face, bark orders at them, and be confident that the leviathans will respond instantly and unquestioningly to those orders. It is perhaps the most incongruous relationship in sports.

Another paradox lies in the physics of the sport. The object of the endeavor is, of course, to make the boat move through the water as quickly as possible. But the faster the boat goes, the harder it is to row well. The enormously complicated sequence of movements, each of which an oarsman must execute with exquisite precision, becomes exponentially more difficult to person as the stroke rate increases. Rowing at a beat of thirty- six is vastly more challenging than rowing at a beat of twenty-six. As the tempo accelerates, the penalty of a miscue- an oar touching the water a fraction of a second too early or too late, for instance- becomes ever more severe, the opportunity for disaster ever greater. At the same time, the exertion

required to maintain a high rate makes the physical pain all the more devastating and therefore the likelihood of miscue greater. In this sense, speed is both the rower's ultimate goal and also his greatest foe.

Paragraph Response:

Is there a sport that compares to rowing in terms of fundamental paradoxes? Explain your answer with supporting details.

Post Reading Analysis: Each chapter begins with a quote from George Yeoman Pocock. Choose one of these quotes and discuss what it adds to the story and why you think Daniel James Brown chose that quote, and tell why it is effective. Connect the quote to the text.
