

Tuskegee Airmen *Why the Story Matters*

Name: _____

In nonfiction, the main idea may be what is most important about the story as a whole. After reading true events, we have to ask ourselves “What did I learn about another person’s experiences?” or “Why did the author think this was an important topic to write about?”

Read the passage *Tuskegee Airmen*. Answer the following questions based on text evidence and your own background knowledge.

1. What is important about the Tuskegee Airman according to the text?

2. Why did the author want to write about the Tuskegee Airmen?

3. After rereading the passage, is there a clear theme?

4. What issues seem to matter to the author that wrote this passage?

5. Explain one great take-away from this passage:

6. Based on your reading and the answers to the questions on this paper, what is the main idea of the passage?

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Name: Answer Key

In nonfiction, the main idea may be what is most important about the story as a whole. After reading true events, we have to ask ourselves “What did I learn about another person’s experiences?” or “Why did the author think this was an important topic to write about?”

Read the passage *Tuskegee Airmen*. Answer the following questions based on text evidence and your own background knowledge.

1. What is important about the Tuskegee Airman according to the text?

Student answers will vary, but should include one of the following: The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African American fighter pilots, the Tuskegee Airmen fought with courage, and the Tuskegee Airmen faced racial issues of equality in the armed forces.

2. Why did the author want to write about the Tuskegee Airmen?

Student answers will vary, but should include following: The author may have felt that the Tuskegee Airmen were notable enough to share with others because of their bravery, their desire to be equal, and their ability to perform difficult tasks.

3. After rereading the passage, is there a clear theme?

Answers may vary/ bravery, courage, overcoming adversity

4. What issues seem to matter to the author that wrote this passage?

Student answers will vary: overcoming adversity, racial issue awareness

5. Explain one great take-away from this passage:

Student answers will vary.

6. Based on your reading and the answers to the questions on this paper, what is the main idea of the passage?

Students answers will vary but should include the understanding that the Tuskegee Airmen faced adversity, were brave, and were hardworking.