Name: Date: Score: / 6

Grandfather's Watch: Comprehension

Fiction story · about 230 words

Read the story. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

⌚ Grandfather's Watch

On the morning of the regional track meet, Diego's grandfather pressed something cold and heavy into his hand. It was an old silver pocket watch with a cracked crystal. "My father gave me this when I ran my first race in Guadalajara," Grandpa said. "It's slow, but it has never stopped."

Diego slipped the watch into his gym bag. He was running the 1,600 meters, four laps around the track, and he was nervous. He'd never finished better than fifth place.

When the starting gun fired, Diego shot out too fast. By the second lap, his legs burned and his lungs felt as if they were on fire. Runner after runner passed him. He was in seventh place. He thought about quitting.

Then he remembered the watch. Slow, but it never stopped. Diego eased his pace and focused on breathing steadily. In, two, three. Out, two, three. On the third lap, he passed a runner who had started too fast like him. Then another. With half a lap to go, he was in fourth. His coach was shouting from the fence. Diego dug deep and kicked toward the finish, passing one more runner just before the line.

Third place. His best finish ever.

After the race, Diego found Grandpa in the bleachers and handed back the watch. Grandpa closed Diego's fingers around it. "Keep it," he said. "You understand it now."

1. **Main idea:** What is the story mostly about?

   A. a grandfather wins a race in Mexico B. a coach teaches a running class

   C. a boy learns to pace himself in a race, inspired by his grandfather's watch D. a boy buys a new watch

2. **Detail:** What was special about the watch?

   A. It was made of gold. B. It could tell the weather. C. It was brand new.

   D. It was slow, but it had never stopped.

3. **Sequence:** What mistake did Diego make at the start of the race?

   A. He started late. B. He started too fast. C. He ran the wrong way. D. He tripped.

4. **Character:** How did Diego change his running after remembering the watch?

   A. He slowed his pace and breathed steadily. B. He sprinted faster. C. He quit the race.

   D. He stopped to rest.

5. **Detail:** What place did Diego finish?

   A. third B. first C. seventh D. fifth

6. **Inference:** What did Grandpa mean by "You understand it now"?

ANSWER KEY

Grandfather's Watch: Comprehension (answers)

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6. **Inference:** What did Grandpa mean by "You understand it now"?

   Diego now understood the lesson of the watch: keep a steady pace and never stop.