

BLIND TO FAILURE

Selection Test A**Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer.
(6 points each)

1. Erik Weihenmayer became blind when he was
 - A. a baby
 - B. a teenager
 - C. a college student
 - D. an adult
2. Before Weihenmayer reached Camp 1, he
 - A. passed out in his tent
 - B. fell into a hole in the mountain
 - C. relied on patterns in the ice
 - D. returned to Base Camp
3. Look at the diagram on page 255. Which camp was nearest to Hillary Step?
 - A. Camp 1
 - B. Camp 2
 - C. Camp 3
 - D. Camp 4
4. What almost kept Weihenmayer from reaching his goal?
 - A. broken equipment
 - B. a snowstorm
 - C. extreme tiredness
 - D. worries about his family
5. What was special about Weihenmayer's climb of Mount Everest?
 - A. He had never climbed the mountain before.
 - B. No one else had ever made it to the top.
 - C. He led a team of nineteen hikers.
 - D. He was the first blind person to reach the top.

SELECTION TEST A, CONTINUED

Vocabulary

Choose the answer that best explains the meaning of each underlined word. (6 points each)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>6. A <u>crevasse</u> is a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. high waterfallB. busy highwayC. large desertD. deep crack <p>7. What does <u>banal</u> mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. ordinaryB. trueC. funnyD. scary <p>8. A person's <u>demeanor</u> is his or her way of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. workingB. dressingC. behavingD. eating | <p>9. What does <u>arduous</u> mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. difficultB. confusingC. dangerousD. serious <p>10. <u>Paramount</u> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. brightly coloredB. worth very littleC. highly importantD. not interesting |
|--|--|

Written Response

Short Response Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the article. Write a sentence or two on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

11. How did Weihenmayer's sense of touch help him climb? Use a detail from the article to explain your answer.
12. Explain why Weihenmayer's teammates respected him. Include a detail from the selection in your response.

Extended Response Answer the following question based on your knowledge of the article. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

13. Mount Everest poses many dangers for climbers. Which of these dangers caused special problems for Weihenmayer? Explain your answer.