

Directions: Read this biography of Cesar Chavez. Then do Numbers 61 through 68.

Cesar Chavez

"Just look at how hard we have been working," said Chavez, wiping his sweaty face with a handkerchief. "The more grapes we get off these vines, the more money it means in the boss's pocket."

"Then why doesn't it mean more money for us as well?" asked one of Chavez's fellow workers.

Chavez just shook his head and bent over to resume work. He knew that what the other worker said was true; no matter how much they pushed themselves under the hot California sun, the boss would only demand more, without any improvement in pay or working conditions.

All the while, though, Chavez's mind worked, thinking that there must be a way to give the workers a voice in their business deals. Chavez did not know then that one day he would, in fact, make this possible.

Cesar Chavez was no stranger to the fields; in fact, his parents had brought the family north from Texas to follow the crops in the late 1930s. It was just after the Great Depression, and the Chavez family took work wherever they could get it. They traveled with other families, setting up

temporary homes on the farms where they worked. The workers were desperate, which meant the farm owners had the advantage. They could offer the workers very little for the hours of backbreaking work necessary to harvest the crops.

The children of migrant workers had difficulties of their own. Chavez and his siblings attended 30 different schools because of the moving around. Just as they started to settle in, they were out the door again. Despite this, Chavez graduated from 8th grade, a significant accomplishment at that time. Following graduation, Chavez began working in the fields full time. It was then that his eyes were fully opened to the unfair treatment of the hardest-working people he knew. Still, none of the workers would speak up. They lacked the English skills necessary to confront the farm bosses and felt it was a hopeless situation.

Chavez believed differently and began teaching the others to read, write, and speak English. He hoped that if the workers' language skills improved, they could become United States citizens and increase their confidence.

Soon, Chavez was getting fellow workers to vote. He got thousands of workers to register in just two months. Unfortunately, Chavez was so determined to help others that he lost his own job. Chavez then took a job working full time for a group called the Community Service Organization, the same group that had hired him to get fellow workers to vote. Chavez started leading meetings and telling workers about their rights.

Landowners continued to take advantage of workers, however, and Chavez had to devote himself to being the voice of the workers. He left his comfortable job at the C.S.O. in 1962 and began traveling from farm to farm, speaking out and organizing the workers

into a union. Six months later, 300 members of the National Farm Workers Union raised their new flag in Fresno, California. It was a momentous occasion. At last, the migrant workers had an official voice. They began to demand their rights to fair pay and improved working conditions. Until these demands were met, they would simply refuse to work.

The landowners had called the shots for a long time, and they did not listen to the union's demands right away. In fact, it wasn't until after 1965 when a workers' strike threatened to leave grapes rotting on the vines that the two groups began working together to make change. At last, Cesar Chavez was seeing the real fruits of his labors.

- 61 This biography is mostly about a person who
- A set out to achieve fame and fortune through self improvement
 - B was determined to achieve rights for a disadvantaged group
 - C learned a lesson about people who take advantage of others
 - D grew up wealthy but gave up everything to help the needy
- 62 What does "At last, the migrant workers had an official voice" mean?
- F They were part of the decision-making process.
 - G They could speak both Spanish and English fluently.
 - H They at last got to speak with the president.
 - J They had a flag and a song for their organization.



- 63 Choose the sentence that best explains why Cesar Chavez devoted his life to leading a workers' union?
- A He wanted to have his own farm someday.
 - B He needed the extra money to raise his family.
 - C He had experienced mistreatment by landowners.
 - D He was tired of getting fired repeatedly.
- 64 What did Cesar Chavez believe would build workers' confidence?
- F finer living conditions
 - G better language skills
 - H higher pay
 - J more jobs
- 65 According to what you read in the passage, which of these statements would Cesar Chavez probably not support?
- A To make a difference, you have to make personal sacrifices.
 - B There is nothing more satisfying than an honest day's work.
 - C People need leaders to encourage them to do great things.
 - D Some problems are best left for the politicians to figure out.

- 66 The last half of the passage is mostly about Cesar Chavez's
- F family history and background
 - G career and accomplishments
 - H educational opportunities
 - J future dreams and goals
- 67 Based on the passage, which word best describes Cesar Chavez?
- | | | | |
|----------|------------|-----------|----------|
| curious | easy going | dedicated | clever |
| A | B | C | D |
- 68 Which fact about Cesar Chavez probably gave him the confidence he needed?
- F He was the son of a farm worker.
 - G He graduated from the 8th grade.
 - H He attended 30 different schools.
 - J He shared a name with a famous ruler.



Directions: A student wrote the following paragraph in response to the passage about Cesar Chavez. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

¹I was impressed by the story about Cesar Chavez. ²He achieved much even when others are thinking how impossible it was. ³History is made up of a lot of interesting people. ⁴I'm curious to learn more about Chavez. ⁵I wonder if he is still alive? ⁶It helps to learn about people like Chavez. ⁷Being good examples of what it means to be true leaders. ⁸They point the way to a brighter future.

69 Choose the sentence that does *not* belong in the paragraph.

- A Sentence 1
- B Sentence 3
- C Sentence 6
- D Sentence 8

70 Which of these best combines Sentences 4 and 5?

- F I'm curious to learn more about Chavez, he is probably still alive.
- G Chavez is probably still doing important things, and I'm curious to learn if he is still alive.
- H I'm curious to learn more about Chavez and if he is still alive.
- J Chavez is probably still doing important things because I'm curious to learn whether he is alive.

71 Select the best way to write Sentence 7.

- A Being good examples of what true leaders mean.
- B They are good examples of what it means to be true leaders.
- C To be a true leader they are being good examples of it.
- D Best as it is

72 Choose the best way to write Sentence 2.

- F When others thought how impossible it is, even he achieved much.
- G Even when others are thinking how impossible it is, he achieved much.
- H He achieved much even when others thought it was impossible.
- J Best as it is