

Name:

Date:

Famous Canadians: James Naismith, Terry Fox, and Viola Desmond Questions

Use the “James Naismith (The Canadian Encyclopedia)” handout to answer these questions

1. Who was James Naismith? Where and when was he born? What is he best known for?
2. Describe the game Naismith played with his friends when he was a kid called, “duck on a rock”.
3. What sports did Naismith play at McGill University in Montreal? Was he a successful athlete? Explain.
4. Naismith became an instructor at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. Physical education director Dr. Luther Gulick tasked Naismith with doing what?
5. Explain some of the similarities between the game “duck on a rock” and basketball.
6. Read Naismith’s description of the first game of basketball that was played on December 21st, 1891. What happened to the boys playing the game? How did Naismith respond to the problem of rough play?
7. What do you think Naismith’s legacy is?

Use the “Terry Fox (The Canadian Encyclopedia)” handout to answer these questions

8. Who was Terry Fox? Where and when was he born? How did he inspire the nation and the world?

9. Although Terry was only five feet tall in grade 8 and had little natural ability, he was determined to make his high school basketball team. Was he successful? What actions did he take to achieve his goal?

10. What type of cancer was Terry diagnosed with? Why did doctors amputate his right leg?

11. Terry underwent chemotherapy (which is a kind of cancer treatment in which chemicals are used). How did this treatment negatively affect him? How did he feel about other cancer patients at the clinic?

12. Who was Dick Traum? Why do you think he was an inspiration to Terry?

13. When and where did Terry begin the Marathon of Hope? When, where and why was he forced to end the Marathon of Hope? How many days had he run for and how many kilometers had he covered?

14. Although Terry was unable to complete his cross-Canada run, what do you think his legacy is?

Use the “Viola Desmond (The Canadian Encyclopedia)” handout to answer these questions

15. Who was Viola Desmond? Where and when was she born? How did she inspire black Canadians?

16. Describe how Desmond found success as an entrepreneur and community leader.

17. On the evening of November 8th, 1946, Viola Desmond decided to see a movie at the Roseland Theatre. How did the staff at the theatre discriminate against her because of the colour of her skin?

18. How did Desmond react to this discrimination? What are your thoughts about her actions?

19. What happened to Desmond when she declined to leave her seat?

20. In court, what was Desmond charged with? Do you think that is the real reason why the manager of the Roseland Theatre decided to press charges against her? Explain.

21. Although Desmond lost her court case, what do you think her legacy is?