Directions: Questions 13 through 17 are based on the following passage.

**Dusky Pete**

During Frontier days, there lived in Tennessee a shrewd horse trader named Sam Flynn. During the summer Sam made an easy living by traveling from one little town to another and racing his horses against the local favorites. His best racer was a coal-black horse called Dusky Pete. Sometimes, when approaching a town, Flynn would mount Dusky Pete and ride in on him as if he were a saddle horse.

One day Flynn rode Pete into a county seat where a big race was to be held as part of the county fair. He entered his stallion and then made heavy bets on the race. Naturally, the townspeople wanted to bet money on their local champions.

Just before the race was to start, an old judge, who was well known for his knowledge of the track, joined the crowd. The townspeople told him of the foolish stranger who had bet so much money on a saddle horse. The judge looked over at the horses and recognized Dusky Pete.

“Gentlemen,” he said with a smile, “there’s a dark horse in this race that will make some of you sick.”

Needless to say, the “dark horse” did win. The story of the race was told many times, and the fame of Dusky Pete spread throughout the racing world. Somehow the term “dark horse” was taken into our everyday language. It is used in politics to describe someone who is not well known, but who is unexpectedly nominated for office. In sports it means an athlete or team that surprises everyone by winning a game.
13  How did the townspeople feel before the race?

A  Angry at Flynn
B  Unhappy about their horses
C  Worried about the race
D  Sure of themselves

14  Which happened first in the story?

A  Flynn bet money on the race.
B  Flynn entered his horse in the race.
C  The judge remembered who Dusky Pete was.
D  The people told the judge about the stranger in town.

15  What was the judge thinking when he spoke to the crowd?

A  That Dusky Pete was going to win the race
B  That the race was really dishonest
C  That the “dark horse” did not stand a chance of winning
D  That the people who bet on Dusky Pete would lose their money

16  What is the main purpose of this story?

A  To tell about a famous race horse
B  To show how Sam Flynn made a fortune
C  To describe the early days of horse racing
D  To explain how we got the expression “dark horse”

17  Flynn rode Dusky Pete into town because Flynn wanted

A  to keep Dusky Pete in good racing condition.
B  to fool the townspeople.
C  people to think Dusky Pete was the only horse he owned.
D  to keep Dusky Pete calm.
Key

13. Correct Response: D
Match to GLE: This item measures ELA-7-M1-GLE 9: demonstrate understanding of information in grade-appropriate texts using a variety of strategies: making inferences and drawing conclusions.

14. Correct Response: B
Match to GLE: This item measures ELA-7-M4-GLE 14: analyze grade-appropriate print and nonprint texts using various reasoning skills: skimming and scanning.

15. Correct Response: A
Match to GLE: This item measures ELA-7-M1-GLE 9: demonstrate understanding of information in grade-appropriate texts using a variety of strategies: making inferences and drawing conclusions.

16. Correct Response: D
Match to GLE: This item measures ELA-7-M1-GLE 9: demonstrate understanding of information in grade-appropriate texts using a variety of strategies: identifying stated or implied main ideas and explaining how details support ideas.

17. Correct Response: B
Match to GLE: This item measures ELA-7-M1-GLE 9: demonstrate understanding of information in grade-appropriate texts using a variety of strategies: making inferences and drawing conclusions.