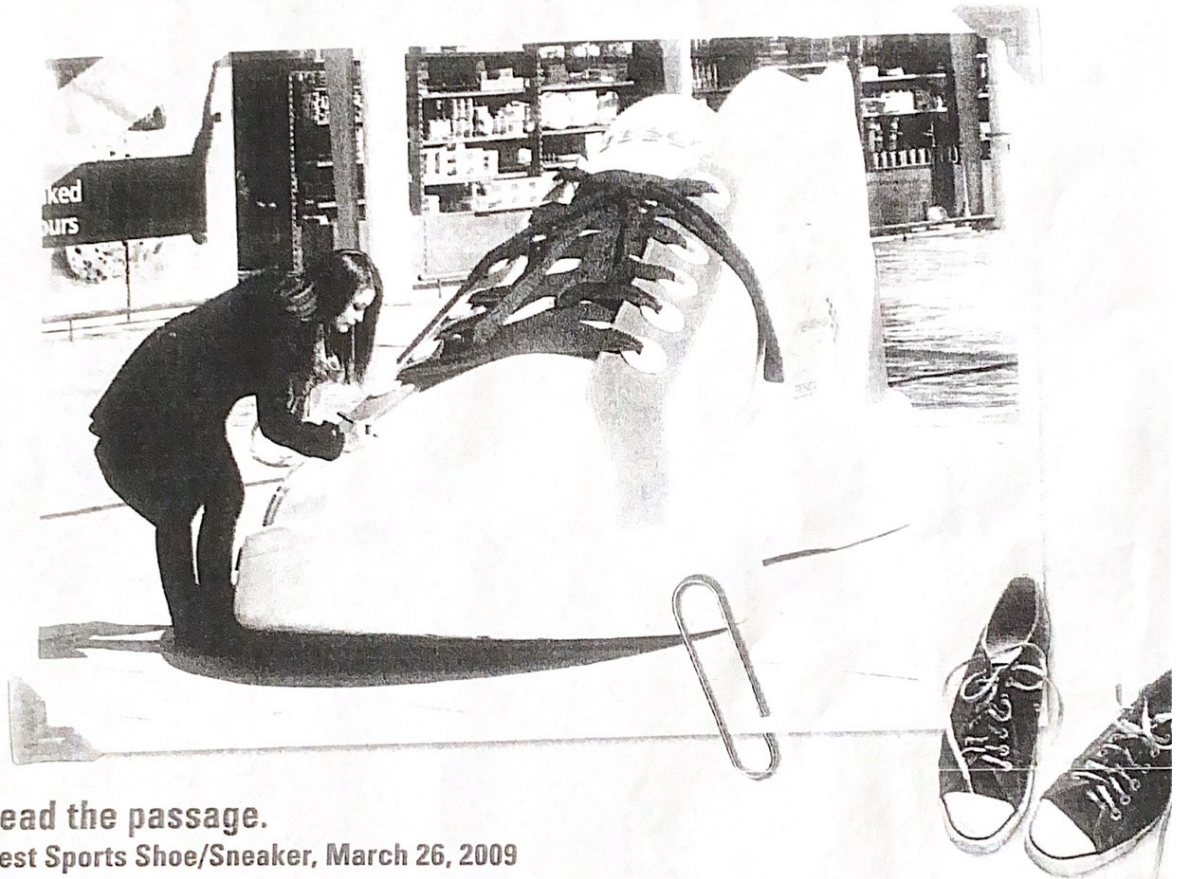


A SNEAKER FOR A GIANT



■ Read the passage.

Largest Sports Shoe/Sneaker, March 26, 2009

Can you imagine a sneaker that is larger than a car? Such a sneaker was actually built. A large company in the United Kingdom had it made. The company wanted to support the United Kingdom's Race for Life. This event raises money for cancer research. To **promote** the race, the company ordered the largest sneaker in the world. It measured 13 feet 1 inch (4 m) long. It was 5 feet 2 inches (1.6 m) wide. Its height was 5 feet 6 inches (1.7 m). This shoe is bigger than most cars.

How tall would a person have to be to wear this sneaker? This person would need to be an 87-foot-tall (27-m-tall) giant! He would be about as tall as a nine-story building! His legs would be very long. Each step he took would cover about 36 feet (11 m). The Race for Life is three miles (5 km). The average female runner takes 7,246 strides to cover the course. Our imagined giant would need just 454 strides to travel the same distance.

This giant sneaker was built to the standards of a regular sneaker. It was made with **authentic** materials, such as leather and rubber. It took three months (more than 800 hours of labor) to finish. Of course, no shoe is complete without a shoelace. The lace for this shoe was 59 feet (18 m) long. On a Little League baseball field, the lace could stretch almost all of the way from home plate to first base!

Name _____ Date _____



■ **Answer the questions.**

1. Circle *T* for true or *F* for false.

A. A United Kingdom company had this shoe made to sell in stores.

T F

B. It took three months to finish making this shoe.

T F

2. How tall would a person probably need to be to wear this sneaker?

3. In this passage, **authentic** means:

- A. real
- B. expensive
- C. used

4. What does **promote** mean in this passage? What is one group or cause you would like to help promote?

5. The sneaker has the same colors as the British flag. Do you think that this is important in any way? Explain your answer.

6. Do you think that building this giant sneaker was a good way to support Race for Life? Why or why not?

■ **Choose one extension activity.**

A. Imagine that you have been given this sneaker. Write a paragraph describing what you plan to do with it. What uses could you find for it? Explain.

B. Race for Life raises money for cancer. Imagine that you have been asked to raise money for a charity. Organize an outline of the event you would hold. Include who, what, when, where, and why.

