

**EXTENDED READING
COMPREHENSION****The One****Answer the questions about “The One.” Sample Answers**

1. What is the purpose of the pre-performance ritual that Jess completes in paragraph 1?
A. to calm his nerves and help him focus
 B. to warm up his muscles before performing
 C. to intimidate the other competitors
 D. to ensure good luck during his performance
- 2a. What is Jess’s driving motivation in the story?
 A. He craves fame and fortune.
 B. He wants to finally beat his nemesis, Tiana Rae.
C. He wants to be successful in musical theater.
 D. He wants to impress his family in the audience.
- 2b. How does Jess think he can achieve his goal?
He thinks winning “The One” audition will give him a chance to train with YMTPA.
3. Based on paragraph 3, what is a “triple threat” in the context of musical theater?
A triple threat is a performer who can sing, dance, and act well.
4. Which phrase best describes the relationship between Jess and Tiana Rae?
 A. fierce opponents C. best friends
B. friendly competitors D. complete strangers
5. List two pieces of evidence from the text that support your answer to question 4.
 1. **Tiana Rae is Jess’s “main rival,” but he applauds her.**
 2. **The two give each other the “double thumbs-up.”**
6. In paragraph 5, Jess wonders what is taking the judges so long to decide who is “The One.” Given what you know about how the story ends, why were the judges likely taking so long?
They were struggling to decide between Tiana Rae and Jess as the winner.
- 7a. What does the word “crestfallen” mean as it is used in paragraph 6?
terribly disappointed
- 7b. What clues from the text helped you understand the meaning of “crestfallen”?
Jess had just lost the competition, so he’s likely feeling upset. Also, the author contrasts Jess feeling “crestfallen” with feeling “thrilled” for Tiana Rae.
8. What is the central theme of this passage?
 A. If you put in the work, you will always reach your goals.
 B. Mistakes can teach important lessons.
 C. Working together is always better than working alone.
D. Success can come in different forms.
9. How do paragraphs 7 and 8 contribute to the development of the theme?
Paragraphs 7 and 8 show that even though Jess didn’t win the competition, he’s still successful in musical theater. The little girl and the crowd of people are all impressed by his performance, and one of the judges wants to call him about future opportunities.
10. What are three words or phrases that could be used to describe Jess based on his actions in the story? Cite text evidence to support your answers.

WORD/PHRASE	TEXT EVIDENCE
talented	“He sang; he tapped...he finished with a perfectly executed, full-throttle aerial cartwheel.”
hardworking	“He’d spent so much time rehearsing and perfecting his act.”
a good sport	“Even Jess applauded from offstage. She’d nailed it!” “He congratulated Tiana Rae.”

Some other possible answers: goal-driven, confident,