



⚡ Today's Athletes

Grade 5

Name: _____

Read the biography passage carefully. Then answer each question below in complete sentences.

Look for key facts about the person's early life, achievements, and impact. Use details from the passage to support your answers.

Giannis Antetokounmpo: The Greek Freak's Rise



Imagine growing up in a country where your family struggled to make ends meet, and then becoming one of the most dominant basketball players in the world. This is the incredible story of Giannis Antetokounmpo, often called "The Greek Freak," who has captivated fans with his unique talent and inspiring journey.

Giannis was born in Athens, Greece, on December 6, 1994, to Nigerian immigrant parents. His early life was marked by financial hardship; he and his brothers often sold watches and sunglasses on the streets to help their family. Despite these challenges, Giannis discovered basketball, quickly showing an unusual combination of height, speed, and agility.

His raw talent caught the attention of scouts, and in 2013, he was drafted by the Milwaukee Bucks. Giannis rapidly transformed into a superstar, leading the Bucks to an NBA Championship in 2021, where he was also named the Finals MVP. He has also earned two NBA Most Valuable Player awards, showcasing his consistent dominance on the court.

One significant challenge Giannis faced was adapting to the professional basketball environment in the United States, both culturally and strategically. He had to learn English, understand complex basketball plays, and adjust to a new way of life far from his



family. His unwavering work ethic and commitment to improvement allowed him to overcome these initial hurdles.

Today, Giannis Antetokounmpo is celebrated not just for his athletic achievements but also for his humility, perseverance, and dedication to his family and community. His journey from selling goods on the streets of Athens to global basketball icon serves as a powerful testament to what is possible with hard work and belief.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Where was Giannis Antetokounmpo born?

- (A) Lagos, Nigeria (B) Athens, Greece (C) Milwaukee, USA
 (D) Paris, France

(2) In his early life, Giannis and his brothers sometimes sold _____ to help their family.

— continue writing on the lines below

(3) In the passage, what does the word "dominance" mean?

- (A) a strong desire to win (B) being the best and most powerful
 (C) a friendly competition (D) a period of great difficulty

(4) Why do you think Giannis Antetokounmpo is often called "The Greek Freak"? Use details from the passage to support your answer.



(5) How does Giannis Antetokounmpo's journey from humble beginnings to a global superstar inspire others? What can we learn from his life story?

