

Name _____

Fact and Opinion

- A **statement of fact** is a statement that can be proved true or false. You can check a statement of fact by looking in reference sources, asking an expert, or observing.
- A **statement of opinion** is a person’s beliefs or ideas about something. You cannot prove whether it is true or false.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

In 1932, Babe went to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. She set a world record in the javelin throw. Newspapers called her the “World’s Greatest Athlete.” Babe knew she could do anything she could put her mind to.

Next, Babe took up golfing. Her golf strokes were so strong that she became a champion at that too. In 1950, she was named the Outstanding Woman Athlete of the Half-Century. She died of cancer at a young age, but her memory and courage will live forever.

1. What is one statement of fact that the author makes in this passage?

Possible responses given.

In 1932, Babe went to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

2. Where could you check whether the statement is true or false?

online; in a biographical encyclopedia

3. What is one statement of opinion that the author makes in this passage?

Her memory and courage will live forever.

4. How do you know that this is a statement of opinion?

This is the author’s belief, and it cannot be proved true or false.

5. Which sentence in this passage contains both a statement of fact and a statement of opinion? Which part is which?

She died at a young age of cancer, but her memory and courage will live forever. The first part is a statement of fact because it can be checked. The second part is the author’s opinion about Babe’s memory.