

Gladiator Gatorade

1. Which sentence from the text best supports the central idea of the text?

- a. "...the drink might have tasted like refreshing lemonade."
- b. "Roman fighters sometimes refueled with a drink made from vinegar, water, and plant ash."
- c. "Eli Manning, Tiger Woods, and Serena Williams have all been known to gulp down Gatorade to recharge."
- d. "...the bones of 22 gladiators [were] found in a 2nd-century graveyard in Turkey."

2. First, read the passage from the text.

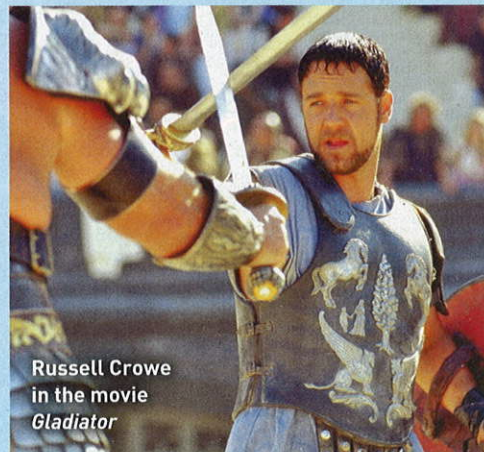
The findings: The gladiators' bones had higher levels of strontium – an element found in ash that strengthens bones – compared with non-gladiators from the same period.

What type of clue does the author use to provide the meaning of the word: strontium?

- a. Inference
- b. Synonym
- c. Compare and contrast
- d. Definition

GLADIATOR GATORADE

Eli Manning, Tiger Woods, and Serena Williams have all been known to gulp down Gatorade to recharge. Apparently, gladiators—the star athletes of ancient Rome—had their own energy drink. Scientists at the Medical University of Vienna in Austria recently analyzed the bones of 22 gladiators found in a 2nd-century graveyard in Turkey. The findings: The gladiators' bones had higher levels of strontium—an element found in ash that strengthens bones—compared with non-gladiators from the same period. Ancient texts say that Roman fighters sometimes refueled with a drink made



from vinegar, water, and plant ash, which could explain the extra strontium in the gladiators' bones. What about the taste? Maybe similar to Gatorade. "With some good vinegar," one scientist told the website Live Science, "the drink might have tasted like refreshing lemonade."

1,004

Number of planets discovered by NASA's Kepler spacecraft since 2009. At least eight are "Earth-like," which means they might have liquid water and be able to support life.

46

Slices of pizza the average American eats every year

