

Name _____

Tour de France

Answer Key

Correction Marks

The Tour de France, often simply referred to as the Tour, has a storied history dating back to **it's** inaugural edition in 1903. It was created by Henri **d**esgrange, a French sports journalist and editor of the newspaper L'Auto, as a means to boost circulation and promote cycling in France. **t**he first race consisted of six stages and covered a total distance of approximately 2,428 kilometers, with 60 cyclists participating. French rider Maurice Garin emerged as the winner of the inaugural Tour de France.

In the early years, the Tour de France faced numerous challenges, including harsh road **conditions limited** regulations, and accusations of cheating. However, it gradually gained popularity and began attracting international attention. Over time, the race evolved, with the introduction of iconic elements such as the yellow jersey (maillot jaune) in 1919 to **signifying** the race leader. The Tour de France has endured through World Wars and various controversies, becoming a symbol of endurance, perseverance, and sporting excellence. Today, it is not only one of the most prestigious events in professional cycling but also a cultural **phenomenonal** that captivates fans worldwide, drawing elite cyclists from around the globe to compete in this grueling test of athleticism and strategy.

Complete Passage

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