



Iditarod Trail History: The Original Serum Run

Your name _____

Date _____ **Period** _____

Due date _____

Use the following resources to help get you started learning about the background of the Serum Run.

The Cruellest Miles, by Gay Salisbury

<http://www.litsite.org/index.cfm?section=Digital-Archives&page=Land-Sea-Air&cat=Dog-Mushing&viewpost=2&ContentId=2559>

Answer the following questions with detail in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What is diphtheria?
2. What are the symptoms of the disease?
3. What happens to the victims of the disease?
4. In 1925, what was the cure for diphtheria?
5. How did Doctor Curtis Welch find out about the spread of the disease? Who were the first victims?

**Iditarod Trail History:
The Original Serum, continued**

7. Why was it so difficult to get the serum to Nome?
8. How was the serum delivered to Nome?
9. Name at least three of the original dog mushers on the Serum Run.
10. Name at least two of the important lead dogs.
11. What extreme difficulties did the original serum run mushers encounter?
12. Was the serum run successful in stopping the diphtheria?
13. Listen to or read an original newspaper report about the Serum Run. Write down the source information. Summarize the article.