

NAME:

COURSE:

### The model with metal legs

*Aimee Mullins is munching French toast at her favourite greasy spoon in Manhattan's West Village. She's tall, slim and blonde with wide, hazel eyes, wearing Stella McCartney cords and high-heeled sandals. It's only when she hoists a leg up on the table and reminds me that it's fake, that the illusion of physical perfection is shattered.*

*Aimee, 25, had both legs amputated just below the knee when she was a year old. She was born without a fibula in her lower legs, possibly caused by her mother taking antibiotics before she knew she was pregnant.*

*The next few years were spent in a wheelchair, and doctors warned that she would never walk. Unfazed, Aimee taught herself to walk with artificial legs and by the age of 10, she was also running, skiing and playing softball.*

*"My parents never told me that I couldn't do something," she says. "They expected me to excel." And she did. Aimee did her internship at the Pentagon, broke world records in the 100 metres, 200 metres and long jump at the 1996 Paralympics, and has been voted one of People Magazine's 50 Most Beautiful People.*

### QUESTIONS

**Answer the following questions using your own words. (2 points)**

a. Why are Aimee's feet fake?


b. Why was she born with this feet problem?


**1. Are the following statements *True* or *False*? (1 point)**

- a. Aimee Mullins can't walk.
- b. Aimee Mullins is short and plump.

**2. Find a word or phrase in the text which, in context, is similar in meaning to: (1 point)**

LIFT: FALSE:

**3. Choose a, b or c in each question below. Only one choice is correct. (2 points)**

4. Aimee is not physically perfect because she

