## **Desi Arnaz | Worksheet**



## **Directions: Circle the correct answer.**

- 1. What is the name of the TV show that Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball created and starred in?
  - a. The Desi and Lucy Show
  - b. I Love Lucy
  - c. Desi Arnaz, Cuban Superstar
- 2. Why is there laughter in the background of the video?
  - a. To show that the show was filmed in front of a live studio audience.
  - b. To serve as a reminder of the purpose of the show.
  - c. To drown out the studio noise.
- 3. As a teenager, why did Desi Arnaz leave his home in Cuba?
  - a. He had always wanted to come to America to be a movie star.
  - b. His parents were poor and wanted a fresh start in a new place.
  - c. A political revolution persecuted his wealthy family, and they lost all their money. They escaped to America.
- 4. How did Desi Arnaz meet Lucille Ball (Lucy)?
  - a. They were bandmates in Desi's band.
  - b. They were costars in Desi's first movie.
  - c. Their parents were friends.
- 5. What was the name of the company that Lucy and Desi formed?
  - a. Arnaz and Company
  - b. Laughter Incorporated
  - c. Desilu Productions
- 6. The *I Love Lucy* show was the first to record using film, the first to use multiple cameras, and the first to have:
  - a. A live studio audience.
  - b. More than one writer.
  - c. A live band.



In less than 20 years, what steps did Desi Arnaz take to go from owning nothing (and not even speaking English) to owning the most popular show on TV?
Explain how Desi and Lucy turned discrimination into one of their biggest strengths.
If you were to create a series or movie, what would it be about? Describe your idea below. Then, draw a picture of the title scene on the screen. Be sure to include the title and your name!

## **Desi Arnaz | Answer Key**

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- 7. In less than 20 years, what steps did Desi Arnaz take to go from owning nothing (and not even speaking English) to owning the most popular show on TV?

  Sample answer: When he first arrived in America, Desi Arnaz quickly took English classes and got a part-time job. After graduating high school, he formed his band and joined a touring company. From there, Desi Arnaz auditioned for Broadway plays and movies. He met and married Lucy, and they teamed up to create *I Love Lucy*.
- 8. Explain how Desi and Lucy turned discrimination into one of their biggest strengths. Sample answer: TV executives feared showing a mixed marriage on the show. They wanted Lucy to have a white husband. But Lucy and Desi knew that America wanted to see their lives, and they were right. Desi and Lucy started their own company. Americans were happy to see the growing diversity in their country. The show was a huge hit!
- If you were to create a series or movie, what would it be about? Describe your idea below. Then, draw a picture of the title scene on the screen. Answers will vary.