The Man, the Boy, and the Donkey

A man and his son were going with their donkey to the market. As they were walking along by its side, a countryman passed them and said, "You fools, what is a donkey for but to ride upon?"

So the man put the boy on the donkey and they went on their way. But soon they passed a group of men, one of whom said, "See that lazy youngster, he lets his father walk while he rides."

So the man ordered his boy to get off, and got on himself. But they hadn't gone far when they passed two women, one of whom said to the other, "Shame on that lazy lout to let his poor little son trudge along."

Well, the man didn't know what to do, but at last he took his boy up before him on the donkey. By this time they had come to the town, and the passers-by began to jeer and point at them. The man stopped and asked what they were scoffing at. The men said, "Aren't you ashamed of yourself for overloading that poor donkey with you and your hulking son?"

The man and boy got off and tried to think what to do. They thought and they thought, until at last they cut down a pole, tied the donkey's feet to it, and raised the pole and the donkey to their shoulders. They went along amid the laughter of all who met them.

Why do the people laugh at the man, the boy, and the donkey at the end of the passage?
A. The boy is on the donkey.
B. The man is on the donkey.
C. The man and the boy are both on the donkey.
D. The man and the boy are carrying the donkey.
2 Why did the man put the boy on the donkey?

A. The boy was tired.
B. The countryman called him and his son fools.
C. The boy was lazy.
D. The son asked his father to put him on the donkey.

3 Write a summary of the lesson in "The Man, the Boy, and the Donkey." Be sure to use details from the passage in your summary.

Write your answer on the lines below.
Waiting and Waiting

Ramon watched Miss Barnes write the note to his mother. It was only three sentences long. She stopped and looked up after she composed each sentence.

"Your mother needs this note, Ramon," she said. "Do not forget to give it to her."

Miss Barnes carefully put the note in an envelope, and then she put a sticker on the flap. She always did that to keep her students from reading the notes.

He wondered why the note was so important. Had he done something wrong? Was he in trouble? He could not think of anything that he had done that was bad. He remembered writing on his desk, but that was two days ago. He would have to wait and see.

Ramon waited for two hours until his mother got home. He did his homework while he waited because he wanted to be sure he looked good when she arrived.

"Mother, I have a note for you from my teacher," he said.

"Thank you Ramon," she said. "I'll open it after dinner."

Ramon did not think he could wait another minute. He begged her to open it before they ate dinner.

"Let's wait until dinner," she answered. "Then I can read it to everyone."

As dessert was being served, Ramon spoke up loudly. He was not very good at waiting. "Mother, please open the note now. I cannot wait any longer!" he said loudly.

Ramon finally heard what the letter said.

"Dear Mrs. Garcia, Ramon has been chosen for a special award. Please come to Parent Night with Ramon to see him get it. I am sure you will be proud of him."

Ramon could not believe he was getting an award. "What award?"

"I do not know. We'll have to wait and see," answered his mother.
Which of the following BEST explains why Ramon's mother waited until dinner to open the note from Ramon's teacher?

A. She thought the note was not important.
B. She believed it was a good note and wanted to share it with the family.
C. She was very hungry.
D. She was too tired to open it.

What is the author's MAIN message?

A. Sometimes mothers are right.
B. Teachers like to keep secrets.
C. Sometimes we just have to wait.
D. Getting notes is always bad.
6 Read the following part of a sentence.

The cowboys _______ into the sunset.

Which option BEST completes the sentence?

A. and Indians
B. on the horses
C. gang
D. rode

7 Read this sentence.

When John got to the party we played hide–and–seek.

In this sentence, which underlined word is a NOUN?

A. John
B. we
C. played
D. hide

8 Read the sentences below.

Raccoons can den in hollow trees. Sometimes they den in the crevice of a rock.

Which of the following is the BEST way to combine the two sentences together to make one SIMPLE sentence?

A. Raccoons can den in hollow trees they den in the crevice of a rock.
B. Raccoons can den in hollow trees or in the crevice of a rock.
C. Raccoons usually den in hollow trees, they den in the crevice of a rock.
D. Raccoons usually den in hollow trees, but sometimes they den in the crevice of a rock.

9 _______ went swimming and body surfing at the beach last weekend.

What is the correct way to write the missing part of the sentence?

A. Grant and me
B. Grant and I
C. Me and Grant
D. I and Grant
10 Read the sentences below.

The vampire bat sleeps during the day. It is active at night.

Which of the following is the BEST way to combine the two sentences together to make one SIMPLE sentence?

A. The vampire bat sleeps during the day, it is active at night.
B. The vampire bat sleeps during the day active at night.
C. The vampire bat sleeps during the day, yet it is active night.
D. The vampire bat sleeps during the day and is active at night.

11 Read the sentences below.

The Eiffel Tower in France weighs around 7000 tons. It is 986 feet tall.

Which of the following is the best way to combine the two sentences together to make one simple sentence?

A. The Eiffel Tower in France weighs around 7000 tons is 986 feet tall.
B. The Eiffel Tower in France weighs around 7000 tons, but it is 986 feet tall.
C. The Eiffel Tower in France weighs around 7000 tons and is 986 feet tall.
D. The Eiffel Tower in France weighs around 7000 tons, it is 986 feet tall.