Adrian was eager for the school day to be over. He had arranged to meet some friends to play basketball, and he wanted to leave right away. The day crawled along, but finally the bell rang. Adrian jumped excitedly from his seat and loaded his backpack. He rushed to the door, but Mr. Benson’s voice stopped him. “Adrian, could you come here, please?”

Adrian stopped and reluctantly turned around. He definitely wasn’t interested in staying after school, but he couldn’t ignore his teacher. So he shuffled up to Mr. Benson’s desk.

“You don’t want to forget this, do you?” Mr. Benson asked as he held out Adrian’s cap. In his hurry to leave, Adrian had dropped it on the floor by accident.

“Thanks, Mr. Benson,” Adrian gratefully replied. Now he was glad he had stayed.

1. Why doesn’t Adrian want to stay after school?
   - A He wants to play basketball.
   - B He is afraid of Mr. Benson.
   - C His parents will be angry.
   - D He will miss his bus.

2. At the end of the text, why is Adrian glad he stayed?
   - A He finds out he won a prize.
   - B He finds out he got a good grade.
   - C Mr. Benson gives him a treat.
   - D Mr. Benson gives him his cap.

3. What does the word shuffled tell you about how Adrian is feeling?
   - A jealous
   - B excited
   - C unhappy
   - D furious

4. Which means the opposite of by accident?
   - A forgetfully
   - B on purpose
   - C roughly
   - D by chance

5. What is the day crawled along an example of?
   - A a simile
   - B personification
   - C a metaphor
   - D alliteration

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Adrian raced to the basketball court to meet his friends. Everyone was looking forward to playing. The group gathered and began to choose teams, and then the game began. Adrian really liked basketball, so for a while, he only paid attention to the game. Then, he noticed a boy watching the game. The boy was about his age. Adrian had never seen him before. He asked his friends if they knew the boy, but nobody did. So Adrian decided to introduce himself. When the game was over, Adrian walked over to the new boy. “Hey,” he said, “I’m Adrian.” The other boy didn’t say anything. Adrian repeated himself, but the other boy still didn’t speak. Suddenly, the boy said something in another language. Adrian didn’t understand the words. But he smiled. The other boy smiled back. That was at least a start.

1. What is the setting?
   - A Adrian's house
   - B the gym
   - C a basketball court
   - D a store

2. What is Adrian’s problem?
   - A He does not want to play basketball.
   - B He has hurt himself.
   - C It is raining very hard.
   - D He does not speak the new boy’s language.

3. Which is a possessive pronoun?
   - A his
   - B he
   - C they
   - D the

4. Which is a synonym for gathered?
   - A played
   - B yelled
   - C came together
   - D ate dinner

5. Why would the boys smile if they don't understand each other?
   - A to show how sad they are
   - B to be kind even if they can’t communicate
   - C to ignore each other
   - D to be silly
Adrian and his friends liked to play basketball. They usually played at a basketball court near Adrian's school. Lately, Adrian had noticed a new boy watching the game. Adrian wondered who the boy was. But the new boy didn't speak English. So Adrian couldn't understand what he said. Adrian thought and thought about how he could communicate with somebody who didn't speak his language. Then, he got an idea. One day, he got to the court before his friends did, and the boy was there. Adrian walked over and pointed to himself. As he did so, he said, “Adrian” and smiled. Then he pointed to the boy. For a moment, the other boy hesitated. Then, he suddenly understood what Adrian meant.

With a smile, he pointed to himself and said, “Manuel.” Finally, the two boys understood each other!

1. Which type of image would tell a reader more about this text?
   A a list of English and Spanish translations
   B a photograph of a basketball
   C a photograph of two boys communicating
   D a picture of a finger pointing

2. Why doesn't Manuel understand Adrian?
   A Adrian uses words that are too long.
   B Manuel cannot hear Adrian.
   C Manuel and Adrian do not speak the same language.
   D Adrian does not want to talk to Manuel.

3. Which word could replace usually?
   A normally
   B never
   C seldom
   D once

4. Which is a synonym for hesitated?
   A ran
   B spoke
   C blinked
   D paused

5. Which type of language did the boys use to communicate?
   A figurative language
   B secret language
   C body language
   D sign language
Adrian and his new friend Manuel did not speak the same language. Adrian spoke English and Manuel spoke Spanish. But they found ways to communicate. They pointed to things. They drew pictures. Sometimes, they acted out what they wanted to say. And they each learned a few words in the other’s language. That helped a lot, too. They ate dinner at each other’s house, so they both learned to enjoy new foods. Adrian discovered that Manuel was from Honduras. Adrian did not know where that was, but Manuel showed him on a map. It was far away!

One day, Adrian decided to invite Manuel to play basketball. He didn't know if Manuel knew how to play, but he was hoping that he could. When the two boys got together after school, Adrian took Manuel to the basketball court. He said, “Watch me” to Manuel, and then he shot a basketball through the hoop. Then, he tossed the ball to Manuel. Adrian didn't think Manuel would be able to score a basket, but he scored easily. Then, Manuel tossed the basketball back to Adrian and pointed to him—it was Adrian's turn. For the next hour the two boys played. Manuel was a good player—much better than Adrian had thought he would be.

The next day, Adrian told his other friends about Manuel. He told them what a good player Manuel was. He told his other friends that he wanted Manuel to play basketball with them after school. At first they didn't know if that was a good idea. How could Manuel play if he didn't understand English? “He does understand some English,” Adrian said. “Besides, he understands basketball. That's what's important.” Adrian's friends agreed to let Manuel play, and they made plans for that afternoon.

Everyone gathered after school to play basketball. Manuel arrived, and Adrian introduced him. Soon they started to play. Everyone agreed that Manuel was an excellent player. They were glad that Adrian had invited him. They spoke English. Manuel spoke Spanish. But they had basketball in common. That was what mattered.
Read “A Whole New Game” and then answer the questions.

1. How do Manuel and Adrian solve the problem of their language difference?
   A. They yell loudly.
   B. They point at things and draw.
   C. They do not spend time together.
   D. They go to Honduras.

2. What does Adrian learn?
   A. how to say a few words in Spanish
   B. how to play basketball
   C. how to buy tickets to Honduras
   D. how to run faster

3. Which is a purpose for reading this text?
   A. I want to know how to speak Spanish.
   B. I want to learn how to play a new game.
   C. I want to know how the characters work together to play a game.
   D. I want to know the score of the game.

4. How do Adrian’s and Manuel’s parents probably feel about the boys being friends?
   A. They are jealous.
   B. They are afraid.
   C. They are upset.
   D. They are glad.

5. What will likely happen the next time Adrian plays basketball?
   A. They won’t invite Manuel to play.
   B. They will invite Manuel to play.
   C. Adrian won’t play basketball.
   D. Adrian won’t be friends with Manuel.

6. Which statement reflects a personal connection to the text?
   A. I have a friend who is deaf, and we find ways to communicate.
   B. I think sports are annoying.
   C. I am always bored after school.
   D. I want to draw pictures while we wait for our food at the restaurant.

7. What is the lesson about friendship?
   A. Friends do not always get along.
   B. Good friends like the same things.
   C. Friendship happens when people learn and care about each other.
   D. A basketball game is not a place to meet a new friend.

8. Which text has a similar theme?
   A. a story of two women from different places getting to know each other
   B. a story about a basketball team winning a big game against all odds
   C. a how-to text about playing basketball
   D. a letter to the mayor asking for basketball courts at the local park
Reread the text “A Whole New Game.” Then, read the prompt and respond on the lines below.

What would you do if someone could not speak your language? How would you communicate? Write about what you would do.

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