Directions

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Have you ever wanted to get a desk, a table, or a chair for your room? Maybe you’ve wanted to put shelves up. Making changes to your room can cost a lot of money if you go to a store and buy new furniture. But you don’t have to do that. You can make some amazing changes in your room without spending a lot of money at all. Sometimes, people sell furniture they no longer want. They often do this when they are moving or when they are buying new things. You can frequently find that furniture at yard sales or garage sales. Flea markets are also good places to look for used desks, tables, or chairs. You can also go to swap meets, where people bring things that they want to sell and look for things they want to buy. If you know where to look, you can find some very nice things that aren’t expensive.

1. What is this text mostly about?
   A how to find inexpensive furniture
   B how to make a new desk
   C how to hold a yard sale
   D where to find a good garage sale

2. Why might an author start a piece of text with a question?
   A to hook the reader
   B to explain what the author does not know
   C to share opinions
   D to state the main idea

3. Which two words are synonyms?
   A frequently and find
   B often and frequently
   C often and rarely
   D costly and inexpensive

4. Which is not a good place to look for used furniture?
   A a swap meet
   B a garage sale
   C a yard sale
   D a department store

5. What is frequently find an example of?
   A a simile
   B synonyms
   C alliteration
   D personification

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Total

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Read the text and then answer the questions.

What if you find the perfect desk, table, or chair, but you dislike the color? You can paint your new furniture exactly the color you want. To do that, though, you need to choose the kind of paint that will work best for your furniture. Different kinds of paint work best for different kinds of material, so the first step to painting is selecting the right kind of paint. If you have a metal desk, chair, or table, you may want latex paint. Latex paint has a water base. One of its ingredients is latex, a kind of rubber. You can also use enamel paint on metal. Enamel paint has an oil base. Enamel paint looks glossy when it dries. You can also use enamel paint to paint wooden furniture. You can also use wood stain, which is a kind of dye, on wooden furniture.

1. Which of these is true about painting furniture?
   A Different kinds of paint work best for different materials.
   B Latex paint is never a good choice for furniture.
   C It doesn't matter which paint you use on your furniture.
   D Furniture cannot be painted.

2. Which of these is a good title for this text?
   A Finding the Right Paint Store
   B How Latex Paint is Made
   C You Can Paint Your Furniture
   D The Story of Wood Stain

3. Which word is a synonym for glossy?
   A dull
   B green
   C sticky
   D shiny

4. Which word is used as an adjective to describe paint that has a water base and a kind of rubber as an ingredient?
   A enamel
   B latex
   C stain
   D oil

5. What is the tone of the text?
   A informational
   B silly
   C persuasive
   D serious
Suppose you’ve found exactly the desk, table, or chair you want. You’ve decided to paint it, and you’ve found exactly the color you want. Before you paint, you’ll need to prepare your furniture. That way, your desk, table, or chair will look its best when you’re finished. The way you prepare furniture depends on its material. For example, if your furniture is made of wood, you will want to make sure the wood is very smooth before you apply any paint. You will also want to get rid of old, flaky paint that may be there. If you are using wood stain, you will want to use sandpaper to smooth the wood first. If your furniture is made of metal, it may be rusty. You’ll want to remove the rust before you paint it. A wire brush will scrape away the rust, and then you can wash the piece of furniture to remove dirt.

1. What does this text tell readers?
   A. where to find metal furniture
   B. how to prepare furniture for painting
   C. why you need to paint furniture
   D. the history of furniture

2. According to the text, which object helps a person to prepare wooden furniture for painting?
   A. a wire brush
   B. rust
   C. sandpaper
   D. wood

3. Which two words are antonyms?
   A. ready and prepared
   B. remove and apply
   C. flaky and rusty
   D. smooth and stain

4. What word or phrase has the same meaning as the verb remove?
   A. apply
   B. put on
   C. wash
   D. take away

5. What is the meaning of the word apply in this text?
   A. put on
   B. relate
   C. ask for
   D. refer
DO IT YOURSELF

Have you ever wanted to change the look of your room? Maybe you have wanted a new table, chair, or desk. Brand new furniture can be very expensive, though, so many kids don’t think they can easily get new things. But you really don’t have to spend a lot of money on furniture. You can find a terrific desk, table or chair that doesn’t cost much and turn it into the perfect piece of furniture for your room.

Start by going to yard sales, garage sales, flea markets, and swap meets. All of those are good places to find furniture. If you don’t find what you want at first, keep looking. Chances are you’ll find exactly the kind of desk, chair, or table you want for your room. And you won’t pay nearly as much for it as you would in a department store.

Once you find the furniture you want, it’s time to make it your own. Choose the kind of paint that will work best for the furniture you’ve bought. Most stores offer latex and enamel paints in many colors. Choose a color that will match the rest of what you have in your room, and then get enough paint in that color to do the job. You will also want to get supplies to prepare your furniture for painting.

If your table, desk, or chair is wooden, you may choose to use wood stain. If you do, you’ll want to smooth it with sandpaper first. If you will be painting it, you don’t need sandpaper unless there are cuts or splinters in the wood. If your furniture is made of metal, you’ll want a wire brush to get rid of rust and prepare it for painting.

Before you start painting or staining, be sure you’re wearing old clothing. If you will be using wood stain, apply the stain carefully, and then let it dry. If you use paint, you may want to start with primer, which is an undercoat for paint. Primer covers up old paint. It also helps the new paint adhere, or stick to the furniture. After the primer is dry, paint your furniture. Now you’ve got an amazing new look for your room!
1. What is the first step in finding great new furniture for your room?
   A. Use primer to cover up old paint.
   B. Check out flea markets, thrift shops, and swap meets.
   C. Choose a paint color that will match your room.
   D. Make sure you are wearing old clothing.

2. If a reader doesn’t remember what primer is used for, what would likely help?
   A. Read the word aloud.
   B. Read the title again.
   C. Read the paragraph again.
   D. Read the first sentence again.

3. What is the author’s purpose?
   A. to tell a personal story
   B. to tell how to change the look of a room without spending much money
   C. to get readers to go to a furniture store
   D. to show how to stay safe in an emergency

4. What is a reason for reading this text?
   A. to find out how to paint furniture
   B. to find a good furniture store
   C. to learn how to paint portraits
   D. to learn the history of furniture-making

5. What might people who are interested in this topic also like?
   A. doing home projects
   B. playing football
   C. reading a lot
   D. watching movies on TV

6. Why should you wear old clothes if you are painting or staining?
   A. so you can easily find your old clothes
   B. so you will be able to wear your new clothes
   C. so you will not stain clothes you like
   D. so you can make room in your closet

7. What are the facts in this text about?
   A. buying furniture
   B. making clothes
   C. taking photographs
   D. painting furniture

8. Why might kids think they can’t get new furniture for their rooms?
   A. New furniture is extremely hard to find.
   B. Kids do not like to use furniture.
   C. Most parents do not want kids to have rooms.
   D. Brand new furniture can be expensive.
Reread “Do It Yourself.” Then, read the prompt and respond on the lines below.

What kind of furniture would you want for your room? Write about what you would do to find what you want, get it ready, and paint or stain it.

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