Brandon's parents were going away for the weekend. They didn't want him to stay by himself all weekend, so they asked Brandon's uncle, Dan, if Brandon could stay with him. Uncle Dan was happy to have Brandon. Brandon didn't mind, either; he liked Uncle Dan and Aunt Terry. He especially liked visiting Uncle Dan's auto repair shop. Brandon liked cars, and he was hoping to be a mechanic when he grew up. So he was excited when his mom and dad dropped him off at Uncle Dan and Aunt Terry's house. In fact, one of the first things Brandon said was, “Am I going to get to go to the shop?”

“Absolutely,” Uncle Dan promised. “I could use a little help around the place this weekend, if you're interested.” Brandon was very interested!

1. Why is Brandon going to stay with Uncle Dan and Aunt Terry?
   - [ ] A Brandon is going to a new school.
   - [ ] B Aunt Terry is sick and needs help.
   - [ ] C Brandon's parents are going away for the weekend.
   - [ ] D Uncle Dan asked if Brandon could visit.

2. Who is the main character?
   - [ ] A Brandon
   - [ ] B Uncle Dan
   - [ ] C Aunt Terry
   - [ ] D Brandon's mom

3. Which is an exclamatory sentence?
   - [ ] A He especially liked visiting Uncle Dan's auto repair shop.
   - [ ] B Am I going to get to go to the shop?
   - [ ] C Brandon's parents were going away for the weekend.
   - [ ] D Brandon was very interested!

4. What does it mean to repair something?
   - [ ] A break it
   - [ ] B fix it
   - [ ] C sell it
   - [ ] D buy it

5. Which word is a preposition?
   - [ ] A were
   - [ ] B weekend
   - [ ] C for
   - [ ] D away
Uncle Dan owned an auto repair shop, and Brandon liked going there. Today, Uncle Dan had promised to let Brandon help in the shop. When they got there, Uncle Dan said, "The first thing to remember is safety. So be very careful in the shop. Stay away from the chemicals and engine oil. And please don't use any of the tools or equipment unless someone says it's safe and shows you how to use it." Brandon promised to be careful, and then Uncle Dan took him to the section of the shop where the mechanics worked. There were all kinds of tools and supplies there. There were bays, too, where the mechanics put the cars when they worked on them. Brandon couldn't wait to get started working.
Brandon was enjoying spending time with Uncle Dan and Aunt Terry. Uncle Dan was allowing Brandon to help out in his auto repair shop, and Brandon was very happy about that. He was planning to be a mechanic, and he wanted to learn as much as he could. So he watched the way everything worked in the shop. When customers came in, they started at the front desk. They told Uncle Dan or his assistant what was wrong with their cars. Then, they left their cars so that the mechanics could work on them. Cars were pulled around to the bays. Then, the mechanics opened the hood or looked at the tires. Sometimes, they used special machines to see what was wrong. The mechanics fixed the cars and Uncle Dan called the customers when their cars were ready.

1. Which of these steps happens first?
   A. Uncle Dan calls the customers when their cars are ready.
   B. Customers tell Uncle Dan or his assistant what is wrong with their cars.
   C. The mechanics open the hood or look at the tires.
   D. The mechanics use special machines to see what is wrong.

2. What is the setting?
   A. Uncle Dan's auto repair shop
   B. Brandon's home
   C. school
   D. an auto factory

3. Which sentence has a compound subject?
   A. Sometimes they used special machines to see what was wrong.
   B. Then the mechanics opened the hood or looked at the tires.
   C. They told Uncle Dan or his assistant what was wrong with their cars.
   D. Dan called the customers when their cars were ready.

4. Which is the antonym of everything?
   A. nothing
   B. something
   C. someone
   D. anything

5. What does the phrase started at mean?
   A. raced
   B. began a process
   C. waited
   D. moved through
Brandon was spending the day helping out at his Uncle Dan’s auto repair shop. After Uncle Dan showed him around, Brandon was ready to get to work. The first thing that Uncle Dan asked him to do was make sure the floor was clean. He gave Brandon a very long broom and reminded him to be careful around the tools and equipment. While he worked, Brandon paid attention to what was going on.

Brandon saw many different kinds of repairs. Some cars needed to have their oil changed, and other cars needed their tires fixed or needed new tires. A few cars needed a lot of engine work, and Brandon watched that, too. When he was finished sweeping, Brandon told Uncle Dan that he wanted to help do some of the repairs. He was very excited when Uncle Dan said he could help with some things. One of the mechanics was about to change a tire. Brandon held the tools while the mechanic did the work. Another mechanic was going to change the oil in a customer’s car. That mechanic showed Brandon how to check how much oil was in the car. When the oil change was finished, the mechanic had Brandon tell the customer that the car was ready.

Brandon did other jobs, too, and by lunchtime, he was very hungry. Uncle Dan ordered a pizza, and Brandon ate with the mechanics. After lunch, everyone got back to work. The day went by so fast that in no time at all, it was time to close the shop for the day. Brandon was very glad he had the chance to work in a real auto repair shop. He was more convinced than ever that he wanted to fix cars. Uncle Dan must have agreed, because he said Brandon made a great mechanic.
Read “Mechanic for a Day” and then answer the questions.

1. How does Uncle Dan feel about Brandon’s work?
   A) curious
   B) angry
   C) afraid
   D) proud

2. After Brandon eats lunch,
   A) he holds the tools while a mechanic changes a tire.
   B) he learns how much oil a car needs.
   C) Uncle Dan says he is a great mechanic.
   D) he sweeps the shop.

3. Which statement reflects a purpose for reading this text?
   A) I want to learn what it means to be a mechanic for a day.
   B) I want to find out if I can be a doctor.
   C) I want to learn why mechanics are always greasy.
   D) I want to read about the new shop on Broadway Street.

4. What can you infer about this text based on the title?
   A) It is about fixing cars.
   B) It is about the first day of school.
   C) It is about a new brother or sister.
   D) It is about going on vacation.

5. What is the author’s opinion about repairing cars?
   A) There is only one type of repair done in each shop.
   B) There are many types of car repairs.
   C) Repairing cars is very easy.
   D) Fixing cars takes a very long time.

6. What will Brandon likely tell his friends about his day?
   A) He will tell them not to go to an auto repair shop.
   B) He will tell them he does not like cars.
   C) He will tell them he had a great time.
   D) He will tell them he doesn’t want to be a mechanic.

7. What lesson does Brandon learn?
   A) Money is the main criteria for choosing a job.
   B) Being in charge is very important.
   C) Doing work is never fun.
   D) Hard work is rewarding.

8. People who enjoy this text may also like what kind of text?
   A) a book about the history of Mexico
   B) a nonfiction article about how cars have changed over time
   C) a guide to cooking meals
   D) a how-to list for glass-making projects
What job would you like to have when you grow up? Write about what a day in your job would be like.