Scented candles were one of Heather’s favorite things. She particularly liked fruit-scented candles like cherry and strawberry. But she liked lots of other scents, too. She wasn’t allowed to light her candles very often. Her mom and dad were afraid that her little sister, Sophia, would get too close to them and burn herself. But Heather lit her candles whenever she could. She enjoyed the way her candles made her room smell—it was as warm and comforting as a fuzzy favorite blanket. The candles helped Heather relax. She even swore that they helped her focus better when she was doing homework. One day, Heather’s friend Brittany gave Heather an idea she had never considered before. “I’ll bet candles wouldn’t be hard to make,” Brittany said. “You should learn to make your own.”

1. Who is the main character?
   A. Sophia
   B. Heather
   C. Dad
   D. Brittany

2. What does Brittany think about Heather?
   A. Heather should light her candles all the time.
   B. Heather should buy a lot of candles.
   C. Heather should get rid of her scented candles.
   D. Heather should learn to make her own candles.

3. Which word is a synonym for focus?
   A. compose
   B. imagine
   C. read
   D. concentrate

4. Which adverb has a similar meaning as particularly?
   A. frequently
   B. hardly
   C. especially
   D. carefully

5. What is the phrase as warm and comforting as a fuzzy favorite blanket an example of?
   A. a simile
   B. personification
   C. a metaphor
   D. hyperbole
Heather’s friend Brittany had suggested that she learn to make candles. That idea made a lot of sense to Heather because she loved scented candles, and it might be fun to learn to make them. So Heather asked her mom and dad about candle making. Neither of them knew how to do it, but her dad suggested that Heather think about getting a candle-making kit. A few craft stores in town sold them. Maybe one of the people who worked in the stores would have some good ideas. Heather liked her dad’s idea, so one Saturday afternoon, her mom drove her and Brittany to a few craft stores. The first one they visited didn’t sell candle-making kits. But at the second store, they saw several. One of the salespeople helped Heather choose the right kit for a beginner. Heather couldn’t wait to start.

1. Where does most of this text take place?
   A) craft stores
   B) school
   C) Brittany’s house
   D) the supermarket

2. How will Heather learn to make candles?
   A) She will work with a candle maker.
   B) She will take lessons.
   C) She will use a candle-making kit.
   D) Her mom and dad will teach her.

3. Which word is an antonym of beginner?
   A) seller
   B) learner
   C) novice
   D) expert

4. In this text, what part of speech is the word candle-making?
   A) noun
   B) adjective
   C) adverb
   D) verb

5. What is the meaning of kit in this text?
   A) a baby animal
   B) a set of supplies for making something
   C) a collection of clothes
   D) a container
Read the text and then answer the questions.

Heather was very excited to get started making her own candles. Heather’s mom and dad had gotten her a candle-making kit, and she was eager to begin using it. The kit contained everything she would need: wax, wicks, molds, scented oil, and coloring. Heather’s kit came with enough supplies for two kinds of candles: pillar candles and container candles. Pillar candles were tall and straight, and container candles were shorter and wider. The kit came with round, silver boxes for the container candles. Heather invited Brittany over to help make candles, and the two girls began. They decided to start with a pillar candle. Heather’s mom helped them melt the wax, and Heather put the wick in the mold. When the wax was ready, Heather and Brittany carefully poured it into the mold. They added some red coloring and some strawberry scent. Soon, Heather had her own strawberry candle!

1. What is the first step in making Heather’s candle?
   A. melting the wax
   B. adding red coloring and strawberry scent
   C. putting the wick in the mold
   D. pouring the wax into the mold

2. Which object does not come in the candle-making kit?
   A. molds
   B. wax
   C. scented oil
   D. matches

3. Which word is a synonym for supplies?
   A. wax
   B. materials
   C. boxes
   D. candles

4. Which word from the text is a verb?
   A. container
   B. scented
   C. poured
   D. own

5. What is the meaning of mold in this text?
   A. soft, loose earth
   B. a furry growth
   C. a hollow form that gives shape
   D. a frame

___ / 5
Total
Heather’s friend Brittany had suggested that Heather learn to make candles. Heather was really grateful to Brittany for that idea. Heather’s mom and dad had gotten her a candle-making kit, and she was really enjoying it. She had already made two pillar candles—one was a strawberry candle and the other one had a vanilla scent. That weekend, Heather was planning to make a container candle. This one would be lavender. Heather invited Brittany over to spend the night on Friday to help her. When Brittany got to Heather’s house, she tossed her backpack on Heather’s bed, and the two girls got started.

Heather’s dad saw them a few minutes later and teased Heather about spending all her time making candles. “You just wait—you'll thank me!” Heather teased back, and the girls returned to what they were doing. By the time they were finished preparing the container candle, it was almost time for dinner. Heather’s mom had ordered pizza, and everyone crowded to feast on the pizza when it arrived. Then suddenly, the lights went out!

“I guess it’s a neighborhood blackout,” her dad said, glancing out the window, “It's dark all over the street.”

All of a sudden, Heather and Brittany looked at each other. They both had the same idea. They ran up to Heather’s room and got some candles, including the two that Heather had made. Then, they brought them downstairs to the living room. Heather’s dad found a lighter and lit the candles, and in no time at all, there was plenty of light to eat dinner.

“You see?” Heather said triumphantly. “I was right! My candles saved the day.” Her dad admitted that Heather was right and promised not to tease her again about the candles.

About two hours after everyone finished eating, the power was restored. Everyone was relieved, even though it had been sort of fun to eat by candlelight. Heather and Brittany returned to making candles. They would be handy to have around next time there was a blackout.
Read “Lighting Things Up” and then answer the questions.

1. When is the power restored?
   A. before the blackout
   B. after dinner is over
   C. before Heather and Brittany get home from school
   D. after Heather and Brittany go to bed

2. Which prediction makes the most sense?
   A. Heather’s parents will stop making candles.
   B. Heather’s dad will tell her to stop making candles.
   C. Heather’s dad will not tease her again about making candles.
   D. Heather’s dad will tease her the next time she makes a candle.

3. At the end of the text, how do Heather’s parents likely feel about her making candles?
   A. grateful
   B. worried
   C. angry
   D. jealous

4. What can be inferred about the setting of this text?
   A. It takes place during school.
   B. It takes place early in the morning.
   C. It takes place in the middle of the night.
   D. It takes place in the evening.

5. Which of these books would Heather likely want to read?
   A. A Biography of Thomas Edison
   B. You Can Sew Your Own Clothes
   C. The Best New Candle Designs!
   D. How to Win at Computer Games

6. Why is the street so dark during the blackout?
   A. The other houses on the street do not have power.
   B. There are no other houses.
   C. The other houses are hidden behind trees.
   D. The street is very long and narrow.

7. Which is the best summary?
   A. This text is about making lights work.
   B. This text is about making candles.
   C. This text is about stars.
   D. This text is about night lights.

8. What does it mean that Heather’s candles saved the day?
   A. She is sad about being teased.
   B. The candles helped the family have light during the blackout.
   C. Her candles were made in one day.
   D. Heather wants to save the candles to use another day.

Score: 1. Y N  
2. Y N  
3. Y N  
4. Y N  
5. Y N  
6. Y N  
7. Y N  
8. Y N  
Total ___ / 8
Reread “Lighting Things Up.” Then, read the prompt and respond on the lines below.

In this story, Heather learns to make candles. What would you like to learn to make? How would you learn? Write about what you would like to learn to make and how you would learn it.

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