Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Suns that set and moons that wane

Rise and are restored again,

Stars that orient day subdues

Night at her return renews.

Herbs and flowers, the beauteous birth

Of the genial womb
Suffer but a transient death

From the winter's cruel breath.

We alas, earth's haughty kings,

We that promise mighty things,

Losing soon life's happy prime,

Droop and fade in little time.

On the basis of your reading of the poem, complete the following summary with one word

The poet is sullen about the brevity of human life. He says that sun (a.) _____ and moons wane. But, the very next day they rise again. Their lives are (b.)_____in a very short span of time. Stars return every (c.)_____ . Herbs and _____(d.) are beautifully born out of (e.)_____ womb of earth.They suffer but attain a (f)_____ death from the chill of the cruel (g.) _____. But, human beings rule the (h.)_____ and promise to do

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the mighty things. When we lose happiness of our (i.)_____we droop and fade in little (j.) . _____

k.) Find the synonym of the word 'temporary' from the poem.

_____

l.) Find the antonym of the word 'kind' from the poem._____

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When we are young, we learn that tigers and sharks are dangerous animals. We might be scared of them because they are big and powerful. As we get older, however, we learn that sometimes the most dangerous animals are also the smallest animals. In fact, the animal that kills the most people every year is one that you have probably killed yourself many times: the mosquito.

While it may seem that all mosquitoes are biters, this is not actually the case. Male mosquitoes eat plant nectar. On the other hand, female mosquitoes feed on animal blood. They need this blood to live and produce eggs. When a female mosquito bites a human being, it transmits a small amount of saliva into the blood. This saliva may or may not contain a deadly disease. The result of the bite can be as **mino**r as an itchy bump or as serious as death.

Because a mosquito can bite many people in the course of its life, it can carry diseases from one person to another very easily. Two of the most deadly diseases carried by mosquitoes are malaria and yellow fever. More than 700 million people become sick from these diseases every year. At least 2 million of these people will die from these diseases.

Many scientists are working on safer and better ways to kill mosquitoes, but so far, there is no sure way to protect everyone in

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the world from their deadly bites. Mosquito nets can be placed over beds to protect people against being bitten. These nets help people stay safe at night, but they do not kill any mosquitoes. Mosquitoes have many natural enemies like bats, birds, dragonflies, and certain kinds of fish. Bringing more of these animals into places where mosquitoes live might help to cut down the amount of mosquitoes in that area. This is a natural solution, but it does not always work very well. Mosquitoes can also be killed with poisons or sprays. Even though these sprays kill mosquitoes, they may also harm other plants or animals.

Although mosquitoes may not seem as scary as larger, more powerful animals, they are far more dangerous to human beings. But things are changing. It is highly likely that one day scientists will find a way to keep everyone safe from mosquitoes and the diseases they carry.

Questions

1) According to the author, some people are more afraid of tigers and sharks than mosquitoes because tigers and sharks

A. kill more people than mosquitoes

B. are big and powerful
C. are found all over the world
D. have no natural enemies

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2) Based on the information in paragraph 2, we can understand that

I. male mosquitoes and female mosquitoes have different eating habits
II. male mosquitoes are harmless to humans
III. female mosquitoes are responsible for transmitting diseases to humans

A. I only
B. I and II only
C. II and III only
D. I, II, and III

3) In paragraph 2 the author writes, "This saliva may or may not contain a deadly disease." The purpose of this statement is to

A. oppose a previous argument. B. question an upcoming conclusion

C. confirm a hypothesis D. support a later statement

4) As used in paragraph 2, minor most nearly means

A. insignificant B. deadly
C. frustrating D. dangerous

5) Based on information in paragraph 3, it can be understood that if you get sick with malaria or yellow fever, your chances of survival are

A. terrible B. mediocre

C. good D. excellent

6) It can be understood that the introduction of dragonflies might reduce the number of flies in a given area because dragonflies

A. work together with mosquitoes B. kill mosquitoes
C. cannot be killed by poisons or sprays D. attract bats

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7) Which of the following best summarizes the information in paragraph 4?

A. Mosquito nets provide adequate protection from deadly mosquitoes.
B. Poisons and sprays provide adequate protection from deadly mosquitoes.
C. The introduction of the mosquito's natural enemies provides adequate protection from deadly mosquitoes.
D. There is no perfect solution to the mosquito problem.

8) Which of the following words best describes the author's overall attitude towards the prospect of solving the mosquito problem?

A. despondent, meaning hopeless or dejected
B. exasperated, meaning extremely irritated or annoyed

C. equivocal, meaning doubtful or uncertain
D. optimistic, meaning hopeful or taking a favourable view

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