BIRTH ORDER THEORY

Reading Comprehension

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
   a. There is a link between the desire to lead and to rebel.
   b. People's personalities may be influenced by birth order.
   c. First-born children make the best presidents.
   d. Personality cancels out the birth order theory.

2. What can the birth order theory tell us?
   a. the order in which siblings were born
   b. how parents should treat their children
   c. what type of job a person might be suited for
   d. whether someone can get into a good school

3. Why might only children prefer to be their own boss?
   a. because they lack strong negotiating skills
   b. because they don't like to be criticized
   c. because they prefer to be around adults
   d. because they don't get along with others

4. The word distinguish in the passage is closest in meaning to
   a. precede
   b. stand out
   c. celebrate
   d. withhold

5. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a reason the birth order theory can be wrong?
   a. a second marriage
   b. adopting an older child
   c. physical disabilities
   d. a person's career

6. What can be inferred about only children based on the passage?
   a. They are more mature than their friends.
   b. They make better lawyers than first-born children.
   c. They are selfish because they rarely have to share.
   d. They don't have many friends because they are stubborn.

Summary

Step 1 **Read the passage again and complete the outline with the words below.**

career / first-born / middle / responsible / diplomatic / independent / personality
journalism / presidents / negotiators / dependent / temperament / lawyers / dynamics

I. **Birth order theory**

A. Explains _____ traits

B. Birth order can affect _____ decisions

II. _____ **children**

A. Traits: _____, ambitious, intellectual

B. Jobs: lawyers, doctors, _____

III. _____ **children**

A. Traits: rebellious, _____, social **B.** Jobs: managers, _____

IV. **Youngest children**

A. Traits: _____, persuasive, funny **B.** Jobs: _____, advertising, sales

V. **Only children**

A. Traits: creative, mature, _____ **B.** Jobs: _____, doctors, architects

VI. **Other factors to consider**

A. Unique family _____ **B.** Natural _____

Step 2 **Complete the summary with your own words based on the outline.**

The birth order theory explains why certain people have common _____ traits.

_____. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____ However, there are other factors to consider such as unique family _____ and a person's natural _____.