Reading

1 Read the following passage and choose the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

A biography is a **narrative** of a person's life written by another person. There are usually five main steps in writing a good biography.

1. Choose a subject. Choosing the person you want to write about is, of course, the first step. This could be a celebrity, or someone who is lesser known. You could also write about someone who is still alive or someone who is dead. Most importantly, choose a person who has had an impact on other people, or whose life is interesting.

2. Get permission. Although you can still write about a person's life without his or her permission, it is always better to get the subject's agreement. **This** will not only help you in your research, but you will also avoid upsetting the person later on if he or she thinks your account is not true.

3. Do your research. You can obtain information through primary sources, e.g. the subject's letters or other personal writings, and interviews with her or him. You can also use secondary sources prepared by someone who didn't know the subject or published at a later time.

4. Choose a format. A biography is usually told in chronological or time order. However, you may also choose to organise the events by themes or specific achievements.

5. Outline, write, and edit. It's a good idea to start with a detailed outline including your main points and the number of chapters. After that, write your first draft. Then revise and edit it until you've got a final version you are happy with.

Writing a biography is not easy, but it is worth the effort. A biography often influences or motivates people, and teaches valuable life lessons.

1. Which of the following can be the best title for the passage?
   - A. Five steps in writing your life story
   - B. Different types of biographies
   - C. Things to avoid when writing a biography
   - D. How to write a good biography

2. The word '**narrative**' in the introduction is closest in meaning to _____.
   - A. life
   - B. story
   - C. impact
   - D. research

3. The word '**subject**' in Section 1 mostly means _____.
   - A. the topic of a biography
   - B. the person that is described in the biography
   - C. a celebrity who is still alive
   - D. someone with an interesting life

4. The word '**this**' in Section 2 refers to _____.
   - A. the subject of the biography
   - B. writing about a person's life
   - C. getting permission from the subject
   - D. doing research about the subject

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5. According to the passage, primary sources of information _____.
   A. come from the subject himself/herself
   B. are stories about the subjects written by someone else
   C. are more diverse than secondary sources
   D. are better than secondary sources

6. It can be inferred from the passage that newspaper reports about the life of a subject are examples of _____.
   A. primary sources of information
   B. secondary sources of information
   C. both A and B
   D. neither A nor B

7. It can be inferred from the passage that a chronological structure _____.
   A. is preferred by most biography writers
   B. is the only way to organise a biography
   C. means organising events by topics or themes
   D. means listing the person's achievements in order

8. According to the passage, which is NOT true about writing a biography?
   A. It can be done without much effort.
   B. It will be important and useful.
   C. It may have a positive impact on the readers' lives.
   D. We can learn from the experiences of others.

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