You are going to read an article about a journey to the hottest place on earth. This text describes Colleen Kiber travels with her father to the Danakil desert in Africa. This exercise consists of a text with multiple-choice questions. For each question, there are four options and you have to choose one of them.

Hottest Place On Earth

1) No one travels alone to the hottest place on earth. You need, for starters, a driver and a Jeep stocked with water and four days of non-perishable food. There are no places to lodge or dine in this desert, so you'll need space for beds and someone who knows how to cook. And finally, because a journey like this costs many thousands of dollars, you'll need some fellow travellers to split the bill - the sort of people who like to fry themselves on vacation.

What point does the writer make?

- ☐ A. The expense of desert travel puts many people off.
- ☐ B. Planning for a trip to the desert is straightforward.
- ☐ C. High temperatures can cause problems for travellers.
- ☐ D. Travelling individually in the desert is unwise.

2) My father is the easiest recruit. Dad, who naps the best roasting in the afternoon sun, is a lover of extreme heat. He's also an extreme traveller, drawn to the fringes of places, all the countries where no one vacations. From my father, I've inherited both tendencies: I'm known for getting bright pink sunburns, and also for stalking the edges of maps. The Danakil desert lies on the fringes of several countries, which claim a sliver of this sweltering, low-lying desert, names the cruellest place on earth. I don't have to mention this is to my father - not the endless salt flats, lakes the bright colour of mouthwash, or camels by the thousands. When Dad starts calling this desert 'the frying pan', I know he's in.

What does the writer say about her father?

- ○ A) He's passed on his love of travelling in remote places to his daughter.
- ○ B) He likes to plan every detail of a journey by studying maps.
- ○ C) He misses having company when he goes to unusual places.
- ○ D) He prefers to research places for himself than listen to others.

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3) We enlist three more people and in Mekele, the starting place for our voyage, we merge with four others. We fill five Jeeps and have nothing in common but a love of travel, and a willingness to sweat for it. The Jeeps plunge down mountains for hours. The heat, of course, is brutal. ***I remind myself this is just a warm-up.*** The real heat won't strike until we reach the sizzling edge of the frying pan, an uninhabited region, roughly 130 meters below sea level, called Dailol, which holds the record for the highest average annual temperature of 34 C.

What do the words 'remind myself this is just a warm-up'?

- A) That they have a long way to go before they reach their destination
- B) That the real challenge of the journey is still ahead of them
- C. That the drivers are still learning how to find their way in the mountains
- D. That the writer is still getting to know the people she is travelling with

4) As we continue, sand gives way to salt, and soon we're in a landscape of white crystals glinting in the fresh morning light. The ground is miraculously flat. Our driver, who has been battling fine sand, cannot resist the urge to go for it. We surge ahead of the other cars in what looks like a Jeep race across some frozen lake. Suddenly, in the pure white expanse, a huge brown mound appears. We're ordered by our guides to find a full litre of bottled water and to bring it with us up the lumpy brown mountain.

What does the writer compare the landscape to?

- A) ice
- B) mud
- C) dust
- D) sand

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5) At the summit, I find my travel mates standing in a kind of silent daydream. Astonished, they crouch down beside pale green toadstools - mineral formations whose glossy tabletops are smooth as marble. The hottest place on earth is an assault of colour: yellow and deep rust, pea green and purple. Some of the formations look like coral reefs, others like eggshells., air-blown from the hot breath of the earth below. Everyone wanders off alone, crunching over the earth, heads down, staring at the ground and shaking their heads.

What does the writer suggest about her fellow travellers?

- A) Their surroundings are impossible to make sense of.
- B) They are unable to take their eyes off the scene in front of them.
- C) They find it difficult to look at the brightness of the colours.
- D) They are disappointed by some of the things they see.

6) I know the ground is hot - you can even hear the water boiling underground. Everywhere we step, things break and splinter. Just when I work up the nerve to step with force, the purple ground collapses beneath my foot. The sneaker I pull back out is covered in the bright yellow stuff. You start to think: we really shouldn't be here. This desert wasn't built to handle a human intrusion, and the human body certainly wasn't built to handle this desert.
Back in the Jeeps, blazing towards the white horizon, I look down at my sneakers. The fluorescent yellow stuff has faded into neutral dirt, like that was all just some fever dream up there, a place we made up.

How does the writer feel as she is walking around on her own?

- A) Afraid that she might never find her way out of the place
- B) Worried that she is going to hurt herself
- C) Uncertain about whether she is doing the right thing
- D) Shocked by the fact that the ground is so soft

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