Main Idea - Quiz 1

Read each paragraph. Then answer each question. Circle the correct answer.

Scientists used to think that all raindrops were small. They thought that big drops of water would bump into each other as they fell from the clouds. By the time they reached the ground, they would be small raindrops. But other scientists took pictures of raindrops. Many raindrops were as big as your finger!

1. This story tells mainly about

a. how big raindrops become wet
b. who likes to take pictures of raindrops
c. how clouds form
d. what scientists have learned about raindrops

What do you do if you're camping and you're caught in the rain without a tent? Rather than get wet, you can make a lean-to. First find two tree branches that are shaped like a Y. The branches should be tall and strong. Then put the two Y-shaped branches in the ground about eight feet apart. Next place a long, light stick across the two branches. Finally find many straight branches. Lean them against the cross stick on both sides. You will have a lean-to for sleeping and staying dry.

2. This passage tells mainly about

a. how to make a lean-to
b. why a lean-to is better than a tent
c. who needs a tent
d. what to do if it rains

Charles E. Yeager was the first man to fly faster than the speed of sound. For a long time, airplanes flew slower than the speed of sound. Planes that tried to fly faster ran into sound waves. The sound waves pushed very hard against the airplanes. And they sometimes broke into pieces in the air. Then in 1947 Yeager finally flew faster than sound. His plane was strong enough to go through the sound waves and it broke the sound barrier.

3. The story mainly tells

a. how old Charles Yeager was
b. why airplanes broke apart
c. what Charles Yeager accomplished
d. where Charles Yeager was born

What is the difference between a donkey and a mule? A donkey looks much like a horse. But it has long ears. It has a big head and a short mane. A donkey has two stripes on its back and shoulders. A mule has a horse for a mother and a donkey for its father. A mule is bigger than a donkey. It is stronger, too. A mule is not a nervous as a donkey.

4. This selection mainly tells

a. how a donkey and a mule are different
b. that a donkey has shorter ears than a mule
c. that donkeys are bigger than mules
d. that more people like mules

When a baby pelican is hungry, it looks for one of its parents. It taps on the parent's bill. The parent opens its mouth. The baby sticks its head inside. Fish that the parent has eaten come up. The baby feeds on this fish. The baby stays in the nest for ten weeks. It will weigh more than its parents. The young bird will live on the extra fat while it learns to catch fish.

5. This story mainly tells

a. how pelicans catch fish
b. which fish pelicans like to eat
c. how baby pelicans eat
d. where pelicans build their nests