Read the text. Choose the correct answers.

The significance of the hoodie

All clothes are political in the sense that they communicate a message about how the person wearing the clothes wants the world to see them. Often these messages are positive ones. For example, some people wear business suits to say that they are powerful, confident and assertive. Others buy designer clothes to show that they are cool and stylish. However, sometimes clothes carry a message that is more threatening, and, in our modern society, no single item of clothing is more menacing than the simple hoodie.

Hoodies are a twentieth century development. In 1930, an American sweatshirt company called Champion added a hood to their sweatshirts so that workers could keep their heads warm in cold weather. At that time, people didn't think that hoodies were threatening, but they did think that they were the sort of clothes that only poor, working class people wore. In 1976, the film Rocky came out. It was a film about an uneducated boxer who became the world champion. The main character wore a hoodie, and a lot of young people copied the style. Wearing a hoodie meant that you were cool and street-wise, but it also said that you were poor, angry and misunderstood by society. When hip hop artists like Run DMC and Eminem adopted the hoodie, its meaning changed subtly once more. Hoodie-wearers were now not only angry and on the edge of society, but they were also dangerous and up to no good.

That, of course, is the image of the hoodie today. When older people see a group of teenagers wearing hoodies, they immediately form a negative opinion of them. It is the uniform of the truant and the bully, the shoplifter and the hooligan. It's impossible for most people not to think that they are trouble-makers. A lot of shopping centres ban young people in hoodies from entering, and there is evidence to show that police officers are more likely to stop and question teenagers in hoodies than young people in other types of clothing. But is this fair? On the one hand, perhaps it is. Hoodies allow the wearer to cover his or her face. Hiding your identity may just be a way of saying that you hate the world and you want to hide from it, but it is also, of course, a good way of avoiding being filmed on CCTV cameras while committing crimes. In our society, it is natural to mistrust people who don't show us who they are. On the other hand, it is a form of discrimination to treat hoodie-wearers as a threat. Why shouldn't young people wear hoodies to express how angry and isolated they are in a society that doesn't respect them?

1 According to the writer, wearing a hoodie
   - a is a serious threat to the fashion industry.
   - b sends a more positive message than wearing suits or designer clothes.
   - c is negative in the eyes of many people.
   - d is one way of showing confidence and assertiveness.

2 According to the text, the first hoodies
   - a were for people in manual jobs.
   - b were popular with people from all classes.
   - c were a type of leisure wear.
   - d were called Champions.

3 Hoodies became cool with young people for the first time
   - a during the 1930s.
   - b when professional boxers started wearing them.
   - c during the hip hop era.
   - d when a film actor wore one in a movie.

4 According to the text, people in hoodies tend to
   - a face questions from the police more often than most young people.
   - b commit more crimes than people in the general population.
   - c spend more time in shopping centres than other people.
   - d bully or threaten older people rather than young people.

5 In the last paragraph, the writer says that
   - a teenagers have no right to cover their faces in public.
   - b hoodie-wearers just want to be filmed by CCTV cameras.
   - c he / she understands why people don't trust teenagers in hoodies.
   - d it is acceptable to discriminate against people in hoodies.

LIVEWORKSHEETS