Optimise Starts A2 Reading Midterm Exam

When you can see with your heart

People often like to travel so they can see beautiful places and remember them. But can you travel to 'feel' the places? For Katie Woods and her mum, Candie, the answer is yes. The mother and daughter walked across 75 state parks in Minnesota, their home state in the USA. On each walk, Katie talked to her mum about the trees, plants, people and animals around her. Why? Because Katie's mum Candie can't see. She's blind.

This special story started a long time ago. Katie knew that her mum was becoming blind. She wanted her to see the world before this happened, so they explored Canada. Then they flew to Europe, where they visited many interesting places. Candie couldn't see them very well, but she heard about them. By listening to her daughter and other people around her, Candie imagined what the places looked like.

In 2017, Katie and her mum decided to spend time in their own state. At the beginning, they hiked in the small state parks. Together with their two dogs, they walked about two to nine kilometres each time. There were many dangerous places on the trip and things weren't easy because Candie can't see. But Katie was always there to help.

After six years, the mother and daughter finished exploring all 75 state parks in Minnesota. Candie's adventure was much more than a walking trip. She couldn't see the nature around her with her eyes. But thanks to her daughter, Candie saw it with her heart.

1) Read the article and the questions. For each question, choose the correct answer.

1 What did Katie and her mum do first?

A. They visited Europe.
B. They travelled to Canada.
C. They hiked across the state parks in Minnesota.

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2 In 2017, the mother and daughter

A. started walking across state parks in their area.
B. decided to come back to Minnesota.
C. got two dogs to walk with them.

3 At first, Katie and her mum's walks were

A. around 2 km long.
B. between 2 km and 9 km long.
C. 9 km long.

4 What does the article say wasn't easy about the walks?

A. They saw some dangerous dogs.
B. The walks weren't safe.
C. Candie didn't see the dangerous places around her.

5 What does the article say made Candie's adventure special?

A. She and her daughter walked across 75 state parks.
B. Her daughter helped her know what all the state parks looked like.
C. Candie and her daughter completed it in six years.

2)Complete the sentences with highlighted words from the article.

1 My brother is _____ a doctor after six years of studying.

2 My cat is very old and _____. It can't see anymore.

3 We're studying the human body in biology. Today, we learnt about how the _____ works.

4 Before my grandpa went to the mountains for the first time, he often _____ what they looked like.

5 I love being in _____ with trees, flowers and animals around me.

6 This weekend, I'm going to _____ time with my grandparents at their house.

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