Name:_____

Reading

Strong winds spun the dry leaves and dust around like mini tornadoes as Sandy and I disembarked the school bus at the end of our street. Ominous black clouds hid the sunshine. Splat! That was the sound of the first raindrop on my forehead. More raindrops came rapidly; hitting us so hard that they stung our exposed skin. We had to find shelter quickly.

Sandy grabbed my hand and pulled me along to the nearest house. As we stepped into the gallery, there was this bright flash of light followed immediately by a deafening “CRACK” and rumble. We trembled as we huddled in a corner with our coats over our heads.

We peeked as trees along the street danced vigorously in the pouring rain. Powerful winds whipped the branches to and fro as the leaves were ripped off. Powerlines snapped and fell sparking on the wet street. The next flash zigzagged across the sky like illuminated roots.

Gradually the rain stopped; the wind lulled, the flashes of lightning disappeared from view and the thunder became a low rumble as it moved farther away. We picked our way carefully down the street and viewed the scene before us. Every surface on the street was covered with debris. We looked in awe at all the damage done in such a short space of time.

A. Match the given words below to their respective meanings

debris	disembark	lulled	huddle
awe	ominous	vigorously	

1. _____ means to gather in a small group.
2. _____ is scattered pieces left from something broken down or destroyed.
3. _____ means to be astonished.

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4. _____ means done with force and energy.

5. _____ means to calm.

6. _____ means threatening.

B. The following questions are about the passage you have just read. Write the CAPITAL LETTER which gives the BEST answer to each question.

1. Sandy and the writer were going
   A. To school
   B. Home from school
   C. To town
   D. To the park

2. They had to find shelter because
   A. It had started to rain
   B. It was too far to walk home
   C. Trees were lying on the road
   D. Their clothes were wet

3. What does the writer us the phrase “deafening CRACK” in line 9 to describe?
   A. The sound of the wind.
   B. The sound of the thunder.
   C. The sound of the rain falling on the roof.
   D. The sounds made by the children.

4. “Trees along the street danced vigorously” because of the
   A. Powerful winds
   B. Flashes of lightning
   C. Rolling thunder
   D. Downed powerlines

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5. The powerlines were sparking because
   A. Of the rain
   B. They were tangled in the trees
   C. Electricity was flowing through them
   D. The lightning had struck them

6. The phrase “picked our way carefully” in line 17 refers to
   A. The manner in which the children were walking
   B. The children picking up debris as they walked
   C. The children being careful
   D. The children holding on to each other as they walked

7. The word “zigzagged” in the third paragraph suggest that the lightning
   A. was very bright
   B. did not flash in a straight line
   C. stayed in the sky for a long time
   D. was not followed by thunder

8. Choose the answer which BEST describes the order in which the events took place.
   A. Black clouds cover the sun; lightning flashed and thunder roared; rain started falling heavily; powerful winds ripped leaves off branches
   B. Black clouds cover the sun; rain started falling heavily; lightning flashed and thunder roared; powerful winds ripped leaves off branches
   C. Powerful winds ripped leaves off branches; black clouds cover the sun; rain started falling; lightning flashed and thunder roared;
   D. Lightning flashed and thunder roared; powerful winds ripped leaves off branches thunder roared and lightning flashed; rain started falling

9. According to the passage, which one of the following statements is TRUE?
A. Not a lot of damage was done by the storm.

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B. The storm did not last long.
C. The rain fell heavily and never ceased.
D. The children walked quickly to get home.

10. A suitable title for the passage is
    A. A Sudden Thunder Storm
    B. A Rainy Day
    C. Sandy's Bus Ride
    D. Nature's Hand

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