Read this passage. Then answer the questions.

Moving to Arizona

1. As the airplane took off, Kendra and Jesse talked about the things in Vermont they would miss most. Their mom was starting a new job in Arizona so the family was moving west. Kendra and Jesse would start school in January.

2. “I’ll miss the green forests,” said Kendra. “But I’ll really miss the fall when the leaves change color and cover the ground like a carpet.”

3. Both Kendra and Jesse would miss winter. By mid-December every year, snow wrapped their Vermont world in a white blanket. The whole family would walk through the woods to cut a small fir tree and drag it home to decorate for the holidays. They would miss the wildlife in Vermont, too, like the wild turkeys they saw so often.¹

4. Hours later, the plane landed in Tucson. Kendra and Jesse stared out the windows searching for anything green. But everything they saw was brown.

5. “Can we cut down a cactus for the holiday?” Jesse joked.

6. His father smiled in a way that meant no. “If we did, we would probably see large lizards instead of wild turkeys. Tucson only gets about 11 inches of rain a year. This area is a desert.”²

7. Kendra certainly wouldn’t need her favorite yellow rain boots anymore.

continued
“We won’t see any snow here either,” Dad continued. “But the mountains farther north will have some.”

The next day, Kendra and Jesse visited the school they would attend. Most things seemed familiar, except the sports. There was no skiing or ice hockey or sledding. But Jesse learned that he could play soccer outside all year long.

“Maybe this place won’t be so bad after all,” he decided.

1 Vermont is home to a large array of wildlife, including turkeys, moose, muskrats, deer, and cougars.

2 Tucson is located in the Sonoran Desert which covers a large part of the Southwest. This desert is the hottest desert in North America.
1. This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

**Part A** What is the main idea of this passage?
A Kendra and Jesse's mother was starting a new job in Arizona.
B There are no winter sports at the school in Arizona.
C Kendra and Jesse miss many things about Vermont when they move to Arizona.
D The land around Tucson is a desert because it gets less than 11 inches of rain each year.

**Part B** Choose two sentences from the passage that support the main idea in Part A.
A "Their mom was starting a new job in Arizona so the family was moving west."
B "Kendra and Jesse would start school in January."
C "I'll miss the green forests,' said Kendra."
D "They would miss the wildlife in Vermont, too, like the wild turkeys they saw so often."
E "'Can we cut down a cactus for the holiday?' Jesse joked."

2. Which phrase from the passage describes a season in Vermont?
A "moving west"
B "when the leaves change color"
C "wild turkeys"
D "searching for anything green"

3. What does the footnote in paragraph 3 help the reader understand?
A how much it snows every year
B the wildlife that lives in Vermont
C why Kendra and Jesse are moving
D what the trees are like in the fall
4. What does the footnote in paragraph 6 help the reader understand about the location of Tucson?
   A  It has many different seasons.
   B  It is in a very hot region.
   C  It has many types of animals.
   D  It rains a good part of the year.

5. Choose two sentences from the passage that use similes or metaphors.
   A  "As the airplane took off, Kendra and Jesse talked about the things in Vermont they would miss most."
   B  "Kendra and Jesse would start school in January."
   C  "But I'll really miss the fall when the leaves change color and cover the ground like a carpet."
   D  "By mid-December every year, snow wrapped their Vermont world in a white blanket."
   E  "They would miss the wildlife in Vermont, too, like the wild turkeys they saw so often."

6. Read these sentences from the passage.

   "Tucson only gets about 11 inches of rain a year. This area is a desert."

   These sentences give details that —
   A  describe the setting of the story.
   B  help the reader understand the characters.
   C  explain why the family moved to Arizona.
   D  compare two characters in the story.
7. Which sentence from the passage describes Kendra and Jesse's new home?
   A "The whole family would walk through the woods to cut a small fir tree and
drag it home to decorate for the holidays."
   B "But everything they saw was brown."
   C "His father smiled in a way that meant no."
   D "The next day, Kendra and Jesse visited the school they would attend."

8. Which sentence from the passage uses nonliteral language?
   A "Both Kendra and Jesse would miss winter."
   B "Hours later, the plane landed in Tucson."
   C "Tucson only gets about 11 inches of rain a year."
   D "Compared to her former home, Tucson was a sandbox."

9. Choose two sentences from the passage to support the inference that Kendra
   and Jesse will have to adjust to different kinds of weather in Tucson.
   A "His father smiled in a way that meant no."
   B "Kendra certainly wouldn't need her favorite yellow rain boots anymore."
   C "We won't see any snow here either; Dad continued."
   D "The next day, Kendra and Jesse visited the school they would attend."
   E "Most things seemed familiar, except the sports."

10. In paragraph 3, the g in drag is pronounced like the g in —
    A high.
    B page.
    C giant.
    D gate.

11. In paragraph 6, the g in large is pronounced like the g in —
    A huge.
    B flag.
    C gone.
    D might.
The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry

Two men walked into the rain forest. Moments before, the forest had been alive with the sounds of squawking birds and howling monkeys. Now all was quiet as the creatures watched the two men and wondered why they had come. The larger man stopped and pointed to a great Kapok tree. Then he left.

The smaller man took the ax her carried and struck the trunk of the tree. Whack! Whack! Whack! The sounds of the blows rang through the forest. The wood of the tree was very hard. Chop! Chop! Chop! The man wiped off the sweat that ran down his face and neck. Whack! Chop! Whack! Chop! Soon the man grew tired. He sat down to rest at the foot of the great Kapok tree. Before he knew it, the heat and hum of the forest had lulled him to sleep.

A boa constrictor lived in the Kapok tree. He slithered down its trunk to where the man was sleeping. He looked at the gash the ax had made in the tree. Then the huge snake slid very close to the man and hissed in his ear:

“Senhor, this tree is a tree of miracles. It is my home, where generations of my ancestors have lived. Do not chop it down.”

A bee buzzed in the sleeping man’s ear:

“Senhor, my hive is in this Kapok tree, and I fly from tree to tree and flower to flower collecting pollen. In this way I pollinate the trees and flowers throughout the rain forest. You see, all living things depend on one another.”

A troupe of monkeys scampered down from the canopy of the Kapok tree. They chattered to the sleeping man:

“Senhor, we have seen the ways of man. You chop down one tree, then come back for another and another. The roots of these great trees will wither and die, and there will be nothing left to hold the earth in place. When the heavy rains come, the soil will be washed away and the forest will become a desert.”

A toucan, a macaw, and a cock-of-the-rock flew down from the canopy.

“Senhor!” squawked the toucan, “you must not cut down this tree. We have flown over the rain forest and seen what happens once you begin to chop down the trees. Many people settle on the land. They set fires to clear the underbrush, and soon the forest disappears. Where once there was life and beauty only black and smoldering ruins remain.”

A bright and small tree frog crawled along the edge of a leaf. In a squeaky voice he piped in the man’s ear:

“Senhor, a ruined rain forest means ruined lives... many ruined lives. You will leave many of us homeless if you chop down this great Kapok tree.”

A jaguar had been sleeping along a branch in the middle of the tree. Because his spotted coat blended into the dappled light and shadows of the understory, no one had noticed him. Now he leapt down and padded silently over to the sleeping man. He growled in his ear:

“Senhor, the Kapok tree is home to many birds and animals. If you cut in down, where will I find my dinner?”

Four tree porcupines swung down from branch to branch and whispered to the man:

“Senhor, do you know what we animals and humans need in order to live? Oxygen. And, Senhor, do you know what trees produce? Oxygen! If you cut down the forests you will destroy that which gives us all life.”
Several anteaters climbed down the Kapok tree with their young clinging to their backs. The unstriped anteater said to the sleeping man:

"Senhor, you are chopping down this tree with no thought for the future. And surely you know that what happens tomorrow depends upon what you do today. The big man tells you to chop down a beautiful tree. He does not think of his own children, who tomorrow must live in a world without trees."

A three-toed sloth had begun climbing down from the canopy when the men first appeared. Only now did she reach the ground. Plodding ever so slowly over to the sleeping man, she spoke in her deep and lazy voice:

"Senhor, how much is beauty worth? Can you live without it? If you destroy the beauty of the rain forest, on what would you feast your eyes?"

A child from the Yanomamo tribe who lived in the rain forest knelt over the sleeping man. He murmured in his ear:

"Senhor, when you awake, please look upon us all with new eyes."

The man awoke with a start. Before him stood the rain forest child, and all around him, staring, were the creatures who depended upon the great Kapok tree. What wondrous and rare animals they were! The man looked about and saw the sun streaming through the canopy. Spots of bright light glowed like jewels amidst the dark green forest. Strange and beautiful plants seemed to dangle in the air, suspended from the great Kapok tree. The man smelled the fragrant perfume of their flowers. He felt the steamy mist rising from the forest floor. But he heard no sound, for the creatures were strangely silent.

The man stood and picked up his ax. He swung back his arm as though to strike the tree. Suddenly he stopped. He turned and looked at the animals and the child. He hesitated. Then he dropped the ax and walked out of the rain forest.

How did the main character’s feelings change from the beginning to the end of the story? What caused these changes. Use textual evidence to support your ideas. What is the author’s message? How do you know?
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Circle Multiplication (Random)
Math Fact Worksheet
Math Worksheet 1

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