Grade 12 Adv. Term 1 – Reading Comprehension 2

Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answer:

I was seven-year-old. I had lived at the same place for all of my life, but we were moving. We were moving from the farm with all of its animals, with its memories of searching for chicken eggs, and with the black and white cows that had to be milked each day. We were going from the place of scrub pines, of pastures, of irrigation ditches to an unknown, unknowable place, far, far away. We had worked hard to get ready. Finally, dad piled all of us into the car. As we began to drive away, I looked out of the rear window of the car. As I looked back, I saw my dog, and my cats. I could not see my horse. I asked my father what would happen to these pets. All that dad could tell me was that they had to remain there, that they could not come with us. There was no explanation – merely the declaration that we must go. I was bitterly disappointed, so disappointed that this memory is still seared into me, forty-three years later. Why could my father not change this? I could not understand then, but I do now. But still don't understand why there was no explanation.

1. ***What is the primary emotion expressed by the narrator regarding the move from the farm?***
   A) Anger
   B) Joy
   C) Bitterness
   D) Disappointment

2. ***Which of the following animals does the narrator explicitly mention as being left behind during the move?***
   A) Dog
   B) Cat
   C) Horse
   D) Chicken

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3. ***What does the narrator imply about their relationship with their father in the passage?***
   A) The father is supportive and understanding.
   B) The father is indifferent to the narrator's feelings.
   C) The father has clear explanations for his decisions.
   D) The father is concerned but feels powerless to change the situation.

4. ***The phrase "unknown, unknowable place" suggests that the narrator views the new location as:***
   A) Familiar and welcoming
   B) Mysterious and daunting
   C) Pleasant and inviting
   D) Overwhelming but exciting

5. ***What literary device is primarily employed in the phrase "seared into me"?***
   A) Metaphor
   B) Simile
   C) Alliteration
   D) Personification

6. ***How does the narrator reflect on their feelings about the move after forty-three years?***
   A) They have completely forgotten about it.
   B) They feel the same disappointment as before.
   C) They have come to understand their father's decision.
   D) They are resentful towards their father for the move.

7. ***What is the significance of the memories associated with the farm mentioned in the passage?***
   A) They represent the narrator's fear of change.
   B) They highlight the narrator's fondness for animals.
   C) They symbolize the narrator's childhood innocence.
   D) They illustrate the joy of rural living.

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8. ***The phrase "that memory is still seared into me" conveys which of the following ideas?***
   A) The memory is fleeting and easily forgotten.
   B) The memory has a lasting emotional impact.
   C) The memory has become irrelevant over time.
   D) The memory is appreciated and cherished.

9. ***What does the narrator's questioning of their father's authority reveal about their character?***
   A) They are rebellious and defiant.
   B) They are confused and seeking understanding.
   C) They are loyal and accepting of authority.
   D) They are apathetic towards their father's decisions.

10. ***In what way does the passage reflect themes of nostalgia and loss?***
    A) The narrator feels excitement about the future.
    B) The narrator yearns for their childhood and what was left behind.
    C) The narrator blames their father for their current situation.
    D) The narrator expresses indifference to the past.

- *Test your reading comprehension skills. To check your answers, WhatsApp me to get the answer key.*

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