Name _____ Date _____

Making Inferences and Main Idea with Text Evidence: A Night at the Fire Station

Directions: Read the passage about a shift at a fire station. Go back to it to find the details that answer each question.

A Night at the Fire Station

At many fire stations, a crew is on duty for 24 hours in a row. It eats and sleeps at the station. A shift might go like this.

At the start of the shift, the crew checks its gear, tools and truck. Later the crew may train, clean the station and cook. At some stations, each member chips in money for food. Then one member cooks for the whole crew.

Each firefighter's gear waits beside the truck, set up ahead of time. The boots stand inside the legs of the pants, and the pants are pushed down around them.

Then a call comes in the night. The overhead lights switch on. A buzzer sounds. A voice tells what is wrong and gives the address. For a fire call, some departments aim to have the truck moving within 80 seconds of the alert.

In 2020, U.S. fire departments answered an estimated 36 million calls. About two in three were for medical help or rescue. On those calls, crews may give first aid or get someone out of danger. About eight in every hundred were false alarms, and about four in every hundred were for fires.

Back at the station, the work may not be over. There may be gear to clean or a report to write. Then the crew can go back to bed. On a busy night, the buzzer may sound again and again.

In the morning, a new crew takes over. The first crew goes home. Some of its members may need to catch up on sleep.

1. Which choice gives the main idea of "A Night at the Fire Station" and a detail that supports it?
   A. A fire crew spends a long shift at the station and stays ready for emergencies. At the start of the shift, the crew checks its gear, tools and truck.
   B. A fire crew has to be ready to leave quickly for a fire. Some departments aim to get the truck moving within 80 seconds of being called out.
   C. A fire crew has a routine for getting ready at the start of a shift. At the start of the shift, the crew checks its gear, tools and truck.
   D. A fire crew works together to take care of its station during a shift. The crew may clean the station.

2. What can you infer about the meal that some fire crews share?

A. The crew buys the food for its shared meal.

B. The firefighters bring all the food from home without sharing the cost.

C. The city gives the crew all the food for free.

D. A hired cook makes the shared meal.

3. A crew sets up its gear so that it can dress fast. Which detail in the passage backs this up?

A. The gloves are kept in coat pockets.

B. The coats hang on a gear rack.

C. The boots sit in the bottom spaces of a gear rack.

D. The boots stand inside the legs of the pants.

4. Before the crew gets the details of the night call, what happens inside the station? Select two.

☐ A. The overhead lights switch on.

☐ B. A bell rings twice.

☐ C. The doors swing open.

☐ D. A siren starts on the truck.

☐ E. A buzzer sounds.

5. The crew can head to the right place with an idea of how to help. How does the passage show the crew learning both things?

A. A voice tells what is wrong and gives the address.

B. A screen in the truck shows the kind of trouble and a map.

C. A printed slip at the station lists the problem and the street.

D. A text message tells the crew what help is needed and where to go.

6. Which practice would help with the most common kind of call in the 2020 U.S. figures? Choose the practice and the fraction the passage gives for that kind of call.

A. Checking reports that turn out to be false alarms. About eight in every hundred calls.

B. Giving first aid and helping people get to safety. About two in three calls.

C. Putting out fires. About four in ten calls.

D. Giving first aid and helping people get to safety. About four in five calls.

7. Why might some crew members need extra sleep after the shift you read about?

A. Cleaning up after a late meal

B. Doing more work between night calls

C. Finishing a practice drill late at night

D. Getting up early to prepare for the new crew