“You got a letter from your new teacher,” Mom said.

“What kind of letter?” Valerie asked. “It’s not homework already to write a report or anything like that, but she had no idea what to bring. She went to her room and looked around. There was Teddy, but the class would think she was a baby if they found out she still slept with her stuffed bear. Teddy was definitely too personal. She had a bookshelf full of books, but none seemed special enough to bring to school. The books didn’t say much about her. Her tennis racket stuck out from under her bed. She’d started taking lessons at the beginning of the summer, and she definitely liked sports.

“I guess that will do,” Valerie said, pulling the racket out and putting it by her backpack.

The next day, Valerie got a package from her Aunt Heather. She
read the letter first. “Here is a postcard from every place I visited this summer. I can't wait until you are older and you can come with me to see all these sights.” Valerie always talked about wanting to travel all over the world with Aunt Heather.

Mom flipped through the postcards with Valerie. They had pictures from London, England; Paris, France; and Rome, Italy. “You know, your tennis racket would be fine to bring to school, but maybe these postcards would tell the class more about you.”

“But I’ve never been to any of these places,” Valerie said.

“No, but you want to visit them. You want to travel all over the
A Personal Introduction

By Kelly Hashway

1. When does this story take place?
   a. at Valerie’s house
   b. on the first day of school
   c. with Valerie’s mother

2. What does Valerie have to bring with her on the first day of school?
   a. a book that she read over the summer
   b. a report telling what she did over the summer
   c. something that was given to her by a relative
   d. an item that tells something about her

3. List two reasons why Valerie thought she should take her tennis racket to school.
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

4. What do Valerie and Aunt Heather want to do when Valerie is older?
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

5. Where did Valerie’s Aunt Heather travel during the summer?
   a. Europe
   b. Asia
   c. South America
   d. North America

6. What type of passage is this?
   a. fiction
   b. biography
   c. non-fiction
   d. science fiction
A Personal Introduction

By Kelly Hashway

Below are sentences from the story. Choose the best definition for each underlined vocabulary word.

1. “You got a letter from your new teacher,” Mom said.
   a. e-mail  
   b. note on paper

2. Mom scanned the paper.
   a. read carefully  
   b. quickly read

3. You have to present it on the first day.
   a. show and talk about  
   b. gift

4. Her tennis racket stuck out from under her bed.
   a. sport in which a ball is hit with a paddle on a table
   b. sport in which a ball is kicked into a net
   c. sport in which horseshoes are thrown at a stake in the ground
   d. sport in which a ball is hit over a net on a court

5. Here is a postcard from every place I visited this summer.
   a. small piece of cardboard with a picture on the front
   b. a long letter describing a vacation spot
   c. a greeting card given for birthdays and special occasions
   d. a stamp

6. I can’t wait until you’re older and you can come with me to see all these sights.
   a. restaurants  
   b. tourist attractions
   c. statues  
   d. buildings
In the story, “A Personal Introduction,” Valerie receives postcards from her Aunt Heather. The postcards show interesting locations from Aunt Heather’s travels.

If you could travel to any city in the world outside of your own country, where would you go? Why?

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A Personal Introduction

By Kelly Hashway
1. When does this story take place?
   a. at Valerie's house
   b. on the first day of school
   c. with Valerie's mother
   d. before the first day of school

2. What does Valerie have to bring with her on the first day of school?
   a. a book that she read over the summer
   b. a report telling what she did over the summer
   c. something that was given to her by a relative
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3. List two reasons why Valerie thought she should take her tennis racket to school.
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  ________________________________________________________________________________

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   d. science fiction
Below are sentences from the story. Choose the best definition for each underlined vocabulary word.

1. "You got a letter from your new teacher," Mom said.
   a. e-mail
   b. note on paper
   c. grade
   d. assignment

2. Mom scanned the paper.
   a. read carefully
   b. quickly read
   c. copied
   d. mailed

3. You have to present it on the first day.
   a. show and talk about
   b. gift
   c. wrap
   d. give it to someone else

4. Her tennis racket stuck out from under her bed.
   a. sport in which a ball is hit with a paddle on a table
   b. sport in which a ball is kicked into a net
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