Passage 2

Grandma Moses is among the most celebrated twentieth - century painters of the United States, yet she had barely started painting before she was in her late seventies. As she once said of herself: "I would never sit back in a rocking chair, waiting for someone to help me.' No one could have had a more productive old age.

She was born Anna Mary Robertson on a farm in New York State, one of five boys and five girls. ("we came in bunches, like radishes.") At twelve she left home and was in domestic service until at twenty-seven, she married Thomas Moses, the hired hand of one of her employers. They farmed most of their lives, first in Virginia and then in New York State, at Eagle Bridge. She had ten children, of whom five survived: her husband died in 1927.

Grandma Moses painted a little as a child and made embroidery pictures as a hobby, but only switched to oils in old age because her hands had become too stiff to sew and she wanted to keep busy and pass the time. Her pictures were first sold at the local drugstore and at a fair, and were soon spotted by a dealer who bought everything she painted. Three of the pictures were exhibited in the Museum of Modern Art, and in 1940 she had her first exhibition in New York. Between the 1930s and her death she produced some 2,000 pictures: detailed and lively portrayals of the rural life she had known for so long, with a marvelous sense of color and form. "I think real hard till think of something real pretty, and then I paint it," she said.

1. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage.
(A) Grandma Moses: A Biographical Sketch
(B) The Children of Grandma Moses
(C) Grandma Moses: Her Best Exhibition
(D) Grandma Moses and Other Older Artists

2. According to the passage, Grandma Moses began to paint because she wanted to
(A) decorate her home   (B) keep active
(C) improve her salary   (D) gain an international reputation

3. From Grandma Moses' description of herself in the first paragraph, it can be inferred that she was
(A) independent   (B) pretty   (C) wealthy   (D) timid

4. Grandma Moses spent most of her life
(A) nursing   (B) painting   (C) embroidering   (D) farming

5. In line 13, the word "spotted" could best be replaced by
(A) speckled   (B) featured   (C) noticed   (D) damaged

Passage 3

There were two widely divergent influences on the early development of statistical methods. Statistics had a mother who was dedicated to keeping orderly records of governmental units (state and statistics come from the same Latin root. *status)* and a gentlemanly gambling father who relied on mathematics to increase his skill at playing the odds in games of chance. The influence of the mother on the offspring, statistics, is represented by counting, measuring, describing, tabulating, ordering, and the taking of censuses-all of which led to modern descriptive statistics. From the influence of the father came modern inferential statistics, which is based squarely on theories of probability.

Descriptive statistics involves tabulating, depicting, and describing collections of data. These data may be either quantitative, such as measures of height, intelligence, or grade level-159 variables that are characterized by an underlying continuum-or the data may represent qualitative variables, such as sex, college major, or personality type. Large masses of data must generally undergo a process of summarization or reduction before they are comprehensible. Descriptive statistics is a tool for describing or summarizing or reducing to comprehensible form the properties of an otherwise unwieldy mass of data.

Inferential statistics is a formalized body of methods for solving another class of problems that present great difficulties for the unaided human mind. This general class of problems characteristically involves attempts to make predictions using a sample of observations. For example a school superintendent wishes to determine the proportion of children in a large school system who come to scho6l without breakfast have been vaccinated for flu. or whatever. Having a little knowledge of statistics, the superintendent would know that it is unnecessary and inefficient to question each child; the proportion for the entire district could be estimated fairly accurately from a sample of as few as 100 children. Thus, the purpose of inferential statistics is to predict or estimate characteristics of a population from a knowledge of the characteristics of only a sample of the population.

1. With what is the passage mainly concerned?
   (A) The drawbacks of descriptive and inferential statistics
   (B) Applications of inferential statistics
   (C) The development and use of statistics
   (D) How to use descriptive statistics

2. According to the first paragraph, counting and describing are associated with
   (A) inferential statistics   (B) descriptive statistics
   (C) unknown variables   (D) quantitative changes

3. Why does the author mention the "mother" and "father" in the first paragraph?
   (A) To point out that parents can teach their children statistics
   (B) To introduce inferential statistics
   (C) To explain that there are different kinds of variables
   (D) To present the background of statistics in a humorous and understandable way

4. The word "squarely" in line 8 could best be replaced by which of the following?
   (A) solidly   (B) geometrically   (C) rectangularly   (D) haphazardly

5. Which of the following is NOT given as an example of a qualitative variable?
   (A) Gender   (B) Height
   (C) College major   (D) Type personality

6. Which of the following statements about descriptive statistics is best supported by the passage?
   (A) It simplifies unwieldy masses of data.
   (B) It leads to increased variability
   (C) It solves all numerical problems.
   (D) It changes qualitative variables to quantitative variables.

7. According to the passage, what is the purpose of examining a sample of a population.?
   (A) To compare different groups
   (B) To predict characteristics of the entire population
   (C) To consider all the quantitative variables
   (D) To tabulate collections of data