Name: _____

Nonfiction Reading Test
Black Friday

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate.

The day after Thanksgiving is the start of the holiday shopping season. Thanksgiving is always on a Thursday, so the day after is a Friday. This day has come to be known as Black Friday. It has been the busiest shopping day of the year since 2005.



Most stores offer great deals on Black Friday. They open their doors in the wee hours of the morning. They try to attract shoppers with big discounts. Some items like TVs are much cheaper than usual. Stores may even lose money on these items. They hope that shoppers will buy gifts for other people while they are in the store.

Black Friday is a great time to get good deals. The problem is that there are not enough low-priced items to go around. Each store may only have a few. These items are in high demand. People stand in long lines to get such great deals. They may line up hours before a store opens. They may be hoping to get a low price on a TV or laptop, but not everyone who wants one will get one. Some people leave disappointed.

The situation can be tense. Some Black Friday events have been violent. Large, eager crowds have trampled workers. Fights have broken out over toys or people cutting in line. People have shot one another over parking spots. But most Black Friday events are safe and fun. Still, if you plan on going, expect large crowds and a bit of shoving.

So where does the name "Black Friday" come from? It was first used in Philadelphia in the 1950s. The police called this day Black Friday because of the heavy traffic it drew. In the 1960s, stores tried to rename the day "Big Friday." It did not stick. The name "Black Friday" continued to spread across the country. It seems that it is here to stay.

Now people all over the country take part in the event known as Black Friday. It is even spreading to other parts of the world. Stores have held Black Friday events in the U.K., Australia, and Brazil since 2012. In Costa Rica Black Friday is known as "Viernes Negro." And in Mexico, stores offer an annual weekend of discounts. They call it "El Buen Fin," which means "the good weekend" in Spanish. I guess the language of savings is

universal.

1. According to the text, why do stores set prices so low on some items that they lose money?
a. They want people to enjoy the holidays.
b. They hope people will buy other gifts while they are in the store.
c. They are in a giving mood because the holiday season is just beginning.
d. They are trying to get rid of old items from last year to make room for new items.

2. Which is **not** true about Black Friday?
a. Black Friday is always the day after Thanksgiving.
b. Black Friday is the busiest shopping day of the year.
c. Black Friday is a national holiday.
d. Black Friday is the start of the holiday shopping season.

3. Where does the name Black Friday come from?
a. The police called this day Black Friday because there is a lot of traffic.
b. The stores called this day Black Friday because it is a serious shopping day.
c. The police called this day Black Friday to remember the victims of violence.
d. The stores called this day Black Friday because they make a lot of money.

4. Which best explains the main idea of the third paragraph?
a. People stand in long lines on Black Friday.
b. Black Friday is the best time of the year to get good deals.
c. Black Friday is a really disappointing time of the year.
d. Black Friday deals are limited and not everyone will get one.

5. Which country does **not** participate in Black Friday?
a. France
b. Costa Rica
c. Brazil
d. United Kingdom

6. Which happened first?
a. Stores tried to rename the day after Thanksgiving "Big Friday."
b. Black Friday events began happening in Australia.
c. Police began calling the day after Thanksgiving "Black Friday."
d. Black Friday became the busiest shopping day of the year.

7. Which title best expresses the author's purpose in writing this text?
a. *Black Friday: Stories from the Parking Lot*
b. *Black Friday: Why You Should Go This Year*
c. *Black Friday: The Stuff That You Should Know*
d. *Black Friday: How to Save Money on the Big Day*

8. Which best describes the overall structure of the fifth paragraph?
a. chronological order
b. problem and solution
c. compare and contrast
d. order of importance

9. Which was **not** cited as one of the downsides of Black Friday?
a. Stores run out of high demand items quickly.
b. Nobody really saves any money on Black Friday.
c. There are large crowds and lots of shoving.
d. Sometimes violence occurs at Black Friday events.

10. Which best explains why Costa Ricans call Black Friday "Viernes Negro"?
a. Costa Rican stores don't want the shopping day associated with American violence.
b. *Viernes Negro* sounds more exotic and exciting than *Black Friday*.
c. Costa Ricans want to establish their own shopping tradition.
d. This is how you say "Black Friday" in Spanish, the language of Costa Rica.

Long Response Questions

How do stores try to lure shoppers during Black Friday events? Use the text to support your response.

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Why is Black Friday a frustrating experience for some people? Refer to the text in your answer.

Why is violence more likely to occur in a store on Black Friday? Use evidence from the text to support your response.