The Day I Became an Adult

1. The year before I graduated from high school, I made the decision to get a part-time job. Luckily, a small restaurant very close to my house was looking for a waitress. The schedule was good for me, and the restaurant was only a mile away from my house. I could get to it on my bicycle. Everything seemed perfect.

2. On my first day of work, I felt so grown-up. I was independent and in control of my future. I didn’t have to depend on my parents to do everything for me. I proudly told them that I was taking responsibility for my own life.

3. Well, those proud feelings didn’t last long. As I entered the restaurant, I saw a crowd of people. It’s hard to describe what I felt. I couldn’t believe they were all depending on me. Suddenly, I didn’t want to be grown up. I wanted to stop time and go back to an earlier, simpler age. But at that moment the manager saw me, and I missed my chance to run away.

4. I am 27 years older now, and working in a completely different profession. However, I won’t ever forget the day that I became and adult.

Part 1: Comprehension
Read these sentences. Circle T (true) or F (false)

1. The writer got her first job when she was a university student.
   T    F

2. She was proud of herself for finding a job.
   T    F

3. She drove her father’s car to work.
   T    F

4. Her parents told her to get a job.
   T    F

5. She decided not to work on her first day.
   T    F

6. She works in a restaurant now.
   T    F
Part 2: Reading skills
Read the questions. Scan the reading for the answers and write them below.

1. When did the writer get her first job?
2. Why did she choose that job?
3. Why was she proud of herself?
4. What did she want to do when she saw the crowd at the restaurant?
5. Why didn’t she run away?

Part 3: Summary
Find the errors in the summary. Cross them out and write the correct word or phrase.

The writer found a job before she graduated from high school. It was to work as a teacher. The job was in a restaurant near her house. She was not proud of her job. The first day of work was easy. When she helped the customers, she felt very confident. She always remembers her first job.

Part 4: Vocabulary
Circle the word that belongs in the blank.

1. I have a cold, so it’s hard to ________ through my nose.
   a. argue  b. shine  c. breathe  d. paint

2. I need to ________ the answer to this math problem.
   a. go on  b. figure out  c. belong to  d. look forward to

3. You should ask your doctor questions about your ________.
   a. health  b. roof  c. government  d. island

4. He ________ books about music. He has more than 100.
   a. climbs  b. invites  c. fixes  d. collects

5. She made a birthday cake in the ________ of a heart.
   a. control  b. shape  c. feeling  d. record
Part 5: Irregular Verbs
I. Finish the sentence using the correct simple past tense form of the verb.

1. Yesterday, I _____________ (eat) too much food.
2. In class, she ________________ (speak) loudly.
3. I already ____________ (tell) you the answer.
4. I ________________ (think) that I ________________ (know) the answer.
5. Many students ________________ (come) to class late.

Part 6: Grammar in writing
Write a sentence using each of the following words.

1. proud of:

2. take

3. depend on

4. look up

Part 7: Editing
Find the errors in the paragraph and change them (hint: look for errors in subject verb agreement).

Now I’m in California where it is warm all through the year and where there is many beautiful beach. When you take a walk on the beach, you sees people wearing baggy clothes that are at least two sizes larger than what they should be wearing. These people are surfers. Personally, I believe that the reason surfers wears baggy clothes are they always has wetsuits on in order to be ready for waves.
Name ______________________

Part 8; Timed writing: Description
Choose one of the pictures and write one or two paragraphs. You will have 30 minutes:

Paragraph 1: Describe the person’s looks
Paragraph 2: Describe this person’s personality and interests (create)

Remember to include:
1. Title
2. Topic sentence for each paragraph
3. Details and examples
4. Unity
5. Concluding sentence
6. Variety of basic sentence structure