DIRECTIONS  Caught by the Sea is an autobiography, and The Voyage of the Frog is a novel. Read these excerpts and answer the questions that follow.

from  Caught by the Sea  by Gary Paulsen

1. The motor suddenly became an intrusion, an ugly sound, and as soon as I was past the jetties and was in open ocean I killed it. For a few seconds, half a minute, we moved on in silence by inertia, coasting from the energy the motor had given us, and then it died and I felt the breeze again on my face as I looked to the rear. It was pushing at the back edge of the sail and I pulled the tiller over to steer off the wind a bit and felt the sail fill. The boat moved differently now, started the dance with the wind and water and moonlight as she heeled slightly and took on life, personality. We glided along in near silence, the only sound the soft gurgle of water along the hull.

2. I did not dare to walk forward in the dark and put up the jib, having never done it before, but she sailed pretty well on the mainsail alone and we kept our course, moving at three or four knots by the speedometer in the cockpit, until daylight some four hours away, when the wind stopped, entirely, and left the dawning ocean as still as a pond and me marooned some twelve miles offshore. I didn't care. I was completely enraptured by what had happened to me. I lowered the mainsail and sat peacefully drifting around in circles, feeling at home, truly at home.

3. For the entire morning there was no wind, and while I might have had enough gas to motor partway back to the harbor, there was something wrong about using it on such a beautiful morning. I made a small pot of oatmeal on the little stove and some instant coffee and ate breakfast in the cockpit, letting the morning sun warm me; then I pulled my sleeping bag out of the cabin and laid it in the cockpit and took a small sleep while the boat rocked gently on the swells.

4. A sound awakened me an hour or so later and I looked over the side to see the boat surrounded by swarms of small fish, maybe anchovies or herring. No sooner did I spot them than pelicans came in and began crash-diving around the boat and then other seabirds arrived, and within minutes a huge pod of dolphins, hundreds of them, showed up. The dolphins began working the school of bait fish, sweeping back and forth like happy wolves, thrashing the water with their tails, perhaps to stun the fish. Then they ate them by the thousands.

5. While I lay in the calm, all around the boat the sea seethed with life. After the dolphins came some sharks, three or four on call to clean up the debris.
from the slaughter. In half an hour they were gone, moving off, following the schools of small fish and dolphins and flocks of seabirds.

“Amazing,” I said aloud. It was amazing that I would be greeted on the sea with such enthusiasm, amazing that on one of the most populated coasts in the world, near a metropolis that stretched nearly two hundred miles from San Diego to Santa Barbara, where nearly eighteen million people jammed the freeways and sidewalks, I would be completely alone with the sea and my boat; amazing that the planet still held such a place.

from The Voyage of the Frog

by Gary Paulsen

And at two in the morning he saw the light in the water. He saw it first to the stern. In his wake, in the silent bubbles left by the Frog moving through the water, there was a rippled, dotted line of eerie light glowing up from the water. It was blue-green, seemed to come from down in the water, and at first it startled and frightened him. But then he remembered hearing about it.

Small animals in the water, microscopic organisms, sometimes phosphoresced—gave off light almost like lightning bugs—when disturbed. He must be going through a mass of them. In back of the Frog was a long line of blue light, fading as the water settled down again.

He tied the tiller off, leaned over the side, and looked toward the front where the bow cut a wave that curled over.

“Ohhh . . .” It slipped out of his mouth unbidden, almost a sigh of amazement. The boat was moving through blue fire, blue fire in the night. The bow wave was a rolling curve of blue light, sparkled with bits of green that seemed to crawl up the side of the boat then fold back and over, splashing out in ripples and droplets of light.

It could not be as beautiful as it was—not be that beautiful and be real. It was so bright and shining a thing that the Frog seemed to be moving through, a lake of cold fire, and as he watched he saw a form move beneath the boat, caught in the blue glow of the bow wave, a torpedo form that shot forward with an incredible burst of speed. He saw first the glowing curved line around the head of the creature and the line showed him that it was the front of a dolphin. All in seconds, in short parts of seconds, he saw the head and the body moving forward beneath the boat and then it exploded—the dolphin blew out of the water in front of the boat.
6. It rose in a clean curve just in front of the bowsprit, five, six feet out of the water in a leap of joy that only dolphins can make, carrying with it a shroud of splashing blue-green fire that whirled and spiraled in the darkness to follow the dolphin up, over and down, back into the water and plunging in green light back to the depths beneath the *Frog*.

7. David was frozen with it, did not know how long he stayed with one hand reaching up as if to touch where the dolphin had been, touch the curve of blue fire. It was all there and gone—just as suddenly gone as if it had never been—and his breath burst suddenly into the night.

8. He looked back, expecting to see the dolphin as the boat went over it but there was nothing.

**Reading Comprehension**

Use “Caught by the Sea” to answer questions 1–7.

1. Reread paragraph 1. To which of your senses do the details in this excerpt appeal?
   A. Sight and hearing
   B. Sight, hearing, and touch
   C. Sight, hearing, touch, and taste
   D. Sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell

2. Reread paragraph 2. To which of your senses do the details in this excerpt appeal?
   A. Sight
   B. Sight and hearing
   C. Sight and touch
   D. Sight, hearing, and touch

3. The author probably wrote this selection to —
   A. convince readers to become sailors
   B. explain how to fish from a sailboat
   C. provide a description of different fish
   D. describe an experience of sailing at sea

4. Reread paragraph 1. Paulsen turns off the motor of his boat because he —
   A. has to save fuel
   B. is bothered by its noise
   C. senses danger ahead
   D. doesn’t want to scare the fish

5. In paragraph 4, Paulsen writes that there is “something wrong” about using the motor on a beautiful morning. What can you infer about him from this statement?
   A. He worries about disturbing others.
   B. He enjoys the peaceful setting.
   C. He is learning how to operate the boat.
   D. He is hiding from someone.

6. You can infer that the seabirds, dolphins, and sharks are attracted to the waters around the boat because of —
   A. Light from the moon
   B. The smell of a human
   C. Swarms of small fish
   D. The sound of the boat’s motor
7. Read these lines.

“I made a small pot of oatmeal on the little stove and some instant coffee and ate breakfast in the cockpit, letting the morning sun warm me; then I pulled my sleeping bag out of the cabin and laid it in the cockpit and took a small sleep while the boat rocked gently on the swells.”

What sensations does Paulsen describe?
A. The feeling of being warmed and gently rocked
B. Hearing the slap and splash of the water hitting the sides of the boat
C. The cozy, warming feeling of eating oatmeal and sipping coffee
D. The aromas of oatmeal and coffee

11. Reread paragraphs 6 and 7. You can infer that David holds his breath when he sees the dolphin because he —
A. plans to capture the dolphin
B. does not want to disturb the dolphin
C. is amazed at the sight of the dolphin
D. thinks that the dolphin might hurt him

12. The author probably wrote this selection to —
A. entertain readers with an amazing experience
B. explain how dolphins swim at night
C. persuade readers that dolphins are dangerous
D. describe what sailing is like at night

Use both selections to answer question 13.

13. The excerpt from The Voyage of the Frog reflects which experience in Paulsen’s background?
A. Staying up all night to watch the sunrise
B. Getting an unexpected glimpse of sea animals
C. Cooking and sleeping on a boat
D. Learning how to operate a sailboat

SHORT CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE
Write two or three sentences to answer this question.

14. Choose one experience described in The Voyage of the Frog that is similar to Paulsen’s experiences in Caught by the Sea. Explain the similarity between the two.

Write a paragraph to answer this question.

15. Reread paragraphs 1 and 3 in Caught by the Sea. What effect does his sailing experience have on Paulsen? Support your answer with examples from the excerpt.
Vocabulary

Use the dictionary entries to answer the following questions about the excerpt from Caught by the Sea.

1. Read the dictionary entry for the word swell.

swell (swēl) n. 1. The act or process of swelling. 2. A long wave on water that moves continuously without breaking. 3. A rise in the land. 4. A crescendo followed by a gradual diminuendo.

Which definition represents the meaning of swell as it is used in paragraph 4?
A. Definition 1
B. Definition 2
C. Definition 3
D. Definition 4

2. Read the dictionary entry for the word harbor.

harbor (härˈbər) n. 1. A sheltered part of a body of water. 2. A place of shelter; a refuge. v. 1. To give shelter to. 2. To provide a place, home, habitat for.

Which definition represents the meaning of harbor as it is used in paragraph 4?
A. Noun definition 1
B. Noun definition 2
C. Verb definition 1
D. Verb definition 2

3. Read the dictionary entry for the word knot.

knot (nōt) n. 1. A compact intersection of interlaced material. 2. A unifying bond. 3. A tight cluster of persons or things. 4. A unit of speed, one nautical mile per hour.

Which definition represents the meaning of the word knot as it is used in paragraph 2?
A. Definition 1
B. Definition 2
C. Definition 3
D. Definition 4

4. Use context clues and your knowledge of similes to help you determine the meaning of each boldfaced word.

4. The microscopic organisms phosphoresced in the water like lightning bugs illuminating a dark night.
A. Crawled  C. Glowed
B. Danced  D. Splashed

5. The boat was as marooned as a car without wheels.
A. Abandoned  C. Old
B. Lifeless  D. Quiet

6. The commotion around the boat was like rush hour traffic.
A. Noisy activity  C. Speedy pursuit
B. Peaceful calm  D. Crashing and churning
Revising and Editing

DIRECTIONS Read this passage and answer the questions that follow.

(1) Dolphins live in water. (2) Many people think of them as fish. (3) They are actually mammals. (4) The following are different types of dolphins the bottle-nosed dolphin, the common dolphin, and the white-sided dolphin. (5) All dolphins share the following characteristics smooth skin, flippers, and a blowhole. (6) Dolphins have no sense of smell. (7) They have a keen sense of hearing. (8) They can detect sounds that humans cannot. (9) Dolphins have been trained to perform in amusement parks, zoos, and aquariums, to retrieve objects, and to guard military ships.

1. What is the BEST way to combine sentences 1, 2, and 3 into one compound-complex sentence?
   A. Dolphins live in water, so many people think of them as fish, but they are actually mammals.
   B. Dolphins live in water, many people think of them as fish, but they are actually mammals.
   C. Because dolphins live in water, many people think of them as fish, but they are actually mammals.
   D. Dolphins are actually mammals, living in water, but many people think of them as fish.

2. In sentence 4, a colon should be placed after which word?
   A. Are
   B. Dolphins
   C. Following
   D. Of

3. In sentence 5, a colon should be placed after which word?
   A. Characteristics
   B. Following
   C. Share
   D. Skin

4. What is the BEST way to combine sentences 6, 7, and 8 into one compound-complex sentence?
   A. Though dolphins have no sense of smell, they have a keen sense of hearing, and they can detect sounds that humans cannot hear.
   B. Having no sense of smell but a keen sense of hearing, dolphins can detect sounds that humans cannot.
   C. Dolphins have no sense of smell but a keen sense of hearing, enabling them to detect sounds that humans cannot.
   D. Despite having no sense of smell, dolphins have a keen sense of hearing, detecting sounds that humans cannot.

5. In sentence 9, a semicolon should be placed after which words?
   A. To, aquarium, objects
   B. Parks, zoos, aquariums, objects
   C. Perform, retrieve, guard
   D. Aquariums, objects