Theme and Objective Summary

Name: _____	Date: _____	Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

A theme is a full idea about life, not a topic word. An objective summary reports the story's main turning points without praise, blame, or personal reaction.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The Map of Detours

Nico planned routes the way some people planned birthday parties. His notebook held train schedules, bus numbers, walking times, and backup plans written in careful boxes. When his aunt asked him to lead his visiting cousins across the city to the science museum, Nico drew the fastest path in blue ink and felt ready.

Two blocks from the station, construction closed the sidewalk. Then the bus they needed hissed past without stopping. His cousins began to complain, and Nico felt his perfect plan narrowing like a hallway. At the corner, an older street musician pointed them toward a small ferry that crossed the river behind the market. It was not on Nico's map.

The ferry moved slowly. From the deck, the cousins saw murals under the bridge, herons standing in the reeds, and the museum dome shining ahead like a coin. Nico wanted to call the route inefficient, but his youngest cousin whispered that this was the best part of the day.

That night, Nico opened his notebook and redrew the route. He kept the blue line, but beside it he added a green one labeled detour worth taking.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage to answer each question. Choose the best answer and support short responses with evidence.

1. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports the inference that Nico begins the story believing a good plan should avoid surprises.?

A. The ferry moved slowly.

B. His notebook held train schedules, bus numbers, walking times, and backup plans written in careful boxes.

C. His youngest cousin whispered that this was the best part.

D. He added a green line labeled detour worth taking.

2. Which statement BEST expresses the central idea or theme of the passage?

   A. Planning is useful, but unexpected changes can lead to discoveries a perfect plan would miss.

   B. Travel is only enjoyable when adults make the decisions.

   C. Museums are less interesting than rivers.

   D. People should never make schedules because they always fail.

3. What does the word 'narrowing' most nearly mean as it is used in the passage?

   A. getting physically smaller

   B. becoming louder

   C. becoming limited and tense

   D. turning dishonest

4. How does the structure or key detail identified in the passage contribute to meaning?

   A. It introduces the aunt as the main character.

   B. It explains the museum exhibits in detail.

   C. It ends the conflict before Nico changes.

   D. The ferry scene creates the turning point because Nico sees value in the delay instead of only a problem.

5. Which conclusion is BEST supported by the whole passage?

   A. Nico decides never to use maps again.

   B. By the end, Nico has not rejected planning; he has expanded his idea of what a successful route can be.

   C. Nico blames his cousins for the late arrival.

   D. Nico thinks the street musician ruined the trip.

6. Which choice is the BEST objective summary of the passage?

   A. Nico carefully plans a museum trip, but after construction and a missed bus force a ferry detour, he learns that an unexpected route can become meaningful too.

   B. Nico takes his cousins to a museum, and the whole day is terrible until they finally arrive.

   C. Nico loses his notebook and must ask a musician to make him a new map.

   D. A family visits a market because the museum is closed.

7. Which answer should be rejected because it goes beyond what the passage supports?

   A. Planning is useful, but unexpected changes can lead to discoveries a perfect plan would miss.

   B. By the end, Nico has not rejected planning; he has expanded his idea of what a successful route can be.

   C. Travel is only enjoyable when adults make the decisions.

   D. The ferry scene creates the turning point because Nico sees value in the delay instead of only a problem.

8. Which detail would be MOST useful to quote in a written response about the passage?

A. The ferry moved slowly.

B. His youngest cousin whispered that this was the best part.

C. He added a green line labeled detour worth taking.

D. His notebook held train schedules, bus numbers, walking times, and backup plans written in careful boxes.

9. In 2-3 sentences, explain how one quoted detail supports the idea that Nico begins the story believing a good plan should avoid surprises..

_____

_____

10. Write a one-sentence analysis of the passage's message or main idea. Then name one detail that supports it.

_____

_____

Answer Keys

1	A	**B**	C	D	6	**A**	B	C	D
2	**A**	B	C	D	7	A	B	**C**	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	B	C	**D**
4	A	B	C	**D**	9	See below			
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			

Explanations

1. B	The correct evidence directly proves the stated inference rather than merely mentioning the same topic.
2. A	The correct answer covers the whole passage, while the distractors are too narrow, too extreme, or unsupported.
3. C	The context around the word points to this meaning in this passage.
4. D	The correct answer explains the role the detail plays in the development of the text.
5. B	The correct conclusion follows from multiple details, not from a single isolated word.
6. A	A strong summary includes the main conflict or idea and the outcome without personal opinion.
7. C	This choice overstates or invents an idea that the passage does not prove.
8. D	This detail is specific enough to support analysis in a written response.
9.	**Answer:** A strong response quotes or closely paraphrases: His notebook held train schedules, bus numbers, walking times, and backup plans written in careful boxes. Then it explains how that detail proves the inference instead of only repeating it. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
10.	**Answer:** A strong response states: Planning is useful, but unexpected changes can lead to discoveries a perfect plan would miss. It supports the statement with a precise detail such as: His notebook held train schedules, bus numbers, walking times, and backup plans written in careful boxes. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.

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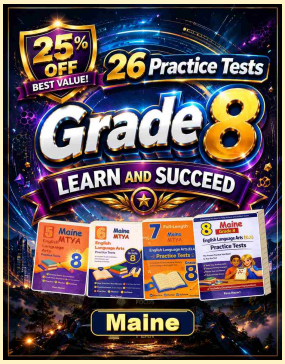

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