Where Does Honey Come From?

Honey is golden and sweet. People use honey for many things. Here are the steps for how bees make honey.

First, bees fly from flower to flower. They stop and drink the flower’s nectar. Nectar is like sweet juice.

Next, the bees fly back to their home. In the hive, bees use the nectar to make honey. Many bees work together in their home to create honey.

Then, nectar becomes honey. Bees use their wings to fan the honey until it dries. Now the bees have created thick, sweet, honey.

Last, a beekeeper gets the honey out of the hive. Many people like to eat honey. Honey is delicious!

1) This passage is mostly about
   A. how bees make honey
   B. why bees have stingers
   C. when bees work together

2) After bees drink nectar from flowers they
   A. fly from flower to flower
   B. fan the honey until it dries
   C. fly back to the hive

3) As used in paragraph 3, the word **hive** most nearly means
   A. a home for bees
   B. a team of bees
   C. honey from bees

4) Bees fan the honey until it dries using their
   A. legs
   B. wings
   C. stingers
5) As used in the last paragraph, delicious belongs to which word group?

A. small, tiny, little
B. bright, shining, golden
C. tasty, yummy, flavorful

6) Some people like using sugar instead of honey in their food. What about you? Do you prefer honey for some foods? Why?
Answers and Explanations

1) A
Core Standard: Integration of Knowledge

In the first paragraph, the author writes, “Here are the steps for how bees make honey.” This lets us know that the passage will describe how bees make honey. Each of the next four paragraphs describes a step in the process. The author writes in more detail about how bees make honey. For instance, in paragraph 4, the author writes, “Bees use their wings to fan the honey until it dries.” This describes a detail in the process of how bees make honey. Using this information, we can tell that this passage is mostly about how bees make honey. This means (A) is correct.

The author never mentions why bees have stingers. Instead, he or she spends much more time describing how bees make honey. From this, we can tell this passage is not mostly about why bees have stingers. Therefore (B) is incorrect.

In paragraph 3, the author writes, “Many bees work together in their home to create honey.” This is a specific detail in the passage. The author spends much more time generally describing how bees make honey. This lets us that this passage is not mostly about when bees work together. So, (C) is incorrect.

2) C
Core Standard: Integration of Knowledge

In paragraph 2, the author writes, “[Bees] stop and drink the flower’s nectar.” The next thing the author explains that the bees do is “…fly back to the hive.” From this, we can tell that after bees drink nectar from flowers, they fly back to the hive. Therefore (C) is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices (A) or (B). This means they are incorrect.

3) A
Core Standard: Craft and Structure

hive (noun): a beehive; where bees live.

In paragraph 3, the author writes, “In the hive, bees use the nectar to make honey.” We can use context clues—hints from known words or phrases around the unknown word or phrase—to figure out what the word hive most nearly means. Right before this, the author writes, “Next, the bees fly back to their home.” Using this information, we can tell that a hive must be a bee’s home. This lets us know that the word hive most nearly means a home for bees. Therefore (A) is correct.

A team of bees is not the same as a home for bees. Bees cannot live in a team. This lets us know that the word hive does not most nearly mean a team of bees. This means (B) is incorrect.
Honey from bees is not the same as a home for bees. Bees cannot live in honey. From this, we can tell the word hive does not most nearly mean honey from bees. Therefore (C) is incorrect.

4) B
Core Standard: Key Ideas and Details

In paragraph 4, the author writes, “Bees use their wings to fan the honey until it dries.” This lets us know that bees fan honey until it dries using their wings. Therefore (B) is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices (A) or (C). This means they are incorrect.

5) C
Core Standard: Craft and Structure

In the last paragraph, the author writes, “Honey is delicious!” We can use context clues—hints from known words or phrases around the unknown word or phrase—to figure out which word group delicious belongs to. Right before this, the author writes, “Many people like to eat honey.” If “many people like to eat honey,” we can tell it must taste good. This is because people like to eat things that taste good. The words tasty, yummy, and flavorful all describe something that tastes good. This lets us know that delicious belongs to the word group containing these words, and (C) is correct.

Using the above information, we can tell we are looking for the word group that has words that describe something that tastes good. Small, tiny, and little all relate to size, not taste. This lets us know that delicious does not belong to the word group containing these words. Therefore (A) is incorrect.

Using the above information, we can tell we are looking for the word group that has words that describe something that tastes good. Bright, shining, and golden all describe how something looks, not how it tastes. This lets us know that delicious does not belong to the word group containing these words, and (B) is incorrect.