Mackie's Grill

The new restaurant, Mackie's Grill, offers very good food at a good value. The servings are large and the prices are reasonable. The menu also has a wide variety of items. You can order nearly anything: pizza, a hamburger, or even tacos. For lighter fare, there are soups and salads. The dessert choices are mouthwatering, including a bar where you can make your own ice cream sundae. The waiters and waitresses at Mackie's Grill are certainly friendly, but the service is not very fast. I had to wait fifteen minutes to order and over thirty minutes for my food to arrive. Maybe this delay was because the restaurant was so crowded. But if Mackie's Grill continues to be such a popular spot, then the restaurant should consider hiring more waiters and waitresses. This would improve the experience for all diners.

1) Which of the following things does the author approve of at Mackie's Grill?

I. the food
II. the prices
III. the service

A. I only
B. I and II only
C. II and III only
D. I, II, and III

2) Near the beginning of the passage, we learn that the menu at Mackie's Grill "has a wide variety of items." As used in the passage, which of the following choices provides an example of a variety of items?

A. The widest part of the fence uses sixteen boards. All of them are painted the same color—white.
B. The teacher writes her instructions on the blackboard. When she is done, the writing covers the whole board from top to bottom.
C. Elliot always eats a bowl of cereal for breakfast, except on Saturday. On Saturday he has pancakes.
D. Leigh spreads out her stamp collection on the floor. She has over 100 different stamps, all from different countries.

3) According to the author, there is a bar in Mackie's Grill where you can make your own
A. pizza
B. taco
C. salad
D. sundae

4) Toward the end of the passage, the author writes, “I had to wait fifteen minutes to order and over thirty minutes for my food to arrive.” This statement is intended to

A. support a point
B. add a detail
C. contradict an earlier idea
D. provide a warning

5) The author concludes the passage with

A. a description
B. a suggestion
C. an example
D. a complaint

6) What do you think makes a restaurant good or bad? What are the important things to consider when you decide if you like a restaurant or not? Explain what makes some people prefer some restaurants over others.
Answers and Explanations

1) B
Core Standard: Key Ideas and Details

In the passage, the author writes, “The new restaurant, Mackie’s Grill, offers very good food at a good value.” Later he or she describes the desserts as “mouthwatering.” This means that the author approves of the food. This supports option (I).

In the passage, the author writes, “The new restaurant, Mackie’s Grill, offers very good food at a good value. The servings are large and the prices are reasonable.” Since the author describes the food as “a good value” and the prices as “reasonable,” we can understand that the author approves of the prices. This supports option (II).

At the end of the passage, the author writes, “The waiters and waitresses at Mackie’s Grill are certainly friendly, but the service is not very fast. I had to wait fifteen minutes to order and over thirty minutes for my food to arrive. Maybe this delay was because the restaurant was so crowded. But if Mackie’s Grill continues to be such a popular spot, then the restaurant should consider hiring more waiters and waitresses. This would improve the experience for all diners.” The author complains that the service is “not very fast” and that it took a long time to order and receive the meal. The author also suggests that hiring more waiters and waitresses would “improve the experience for all diners,” which means he or she thinks the service needs improvement. This means that the author does not approve of the service. This eliminates option (III).

Therefore (B) is correct.

2) D
Core Standard: Craft and Structure

variety (noun): the quality or state of being different or diverse; assortment.

In the passage, the author writes, “The menu also has a wide variety of items.” To understand the meaning of the word variety, we need to look at the context of the surrounding sentences. The author next describes what is on the menu. He or she writes, “You can order nearly anything: pizza, a hamburger, or even tacos. For lighter fare, there are soups and salads. The dessert choices are mouthwatering, including a bar where you can make your own ice cream sundae.” Based on this description, we can understand that the menu has a lot of different choices on it, since you can choose “nearly anything.” This tells us that variety means an assortment of lots of different things. If Leigh spreads out her stamp collection on the floor and she has over 100 different stamps, all from different countries, then she has a variety of stamps. This means this is an example of a variety. Therefore (D) is correct.

If the widest part of the fence uses sixteen boards and all of them are painted white, all of these boards are the same, not different. This means this is not an example of a variety. This makes (A) incorrect.
If the teacher writes her instructions on the blackboard and the writing covers the whole board from top to bottom, there is a lot of writing on the board. But variety means a lot of different things, not just a large amount. This means this is not an example of a variety. This eliminates (B).

If Elliot always eats a bowl of cereal for breakfast, except on Saturday, when he has pancakes, there are only two things he eats for breakfast, not a lot of different things, so this is not an example of a variety. This means (C) is incorrect.

3) D
Core Standard: Key Ideas and Details

In the passage, the author writes, “The dessert choices are mouthwatering, including a bar where you can make your own ice cream sundae.” This means that there is a bar in Mackie’s Grill where you can make your own sundae. Therefore (D) is correct.

Although the author says you can order a pizza, taco, or salad at Mackie’s Grill, he or she does not say that there is a bar where you can make any of these things. Therefore choices (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect.

4) A
Core Standard: Integration of Knowledge

In the passage, the author writes, “I had to wait fifteen minutes to order and over thirty minutes for my food to arrive.” To understand the intent of this statement, we need to look at the context of the previous sentence. Before this statement, the author writes, “The waiters and waitresses at Mackie’s Grill are certainly friendly, but the service is not very fast.” This tells us that the author explains that he or she had to wait fifteen minutes to order and over thirty minutes for the food to arrive in order to support the earlier point that “the service is not very fast.” This means that this statement is intended to support a point. Therefore (A) is correct.

Although this statement is a detail, it is intended to do more than just add a detail. It is purposefully included as evidence to support a point. This means (B) is incorrect.

The passage does not provide information to support choices (C) and (D). Therefore they are incorrect.

5) B
Core Standard: Integration of Knowledge

At the end of the passage, the author writes, “But if Mackie’s Grill continues to be such a popular spot, then the restaurant should consider hiring more waiters and waitresses. This would improve the experience for all diners.” In these sentences, the author suggests that the restaurant hire more waiters and waitresses to speed up the service and “improve the experience for all diners.” This means that the author concludes the passage with a suggestion. Therefore (B) is correct.
The passage does not provide information to support choices (A), (C), and (D). Therefore they are incorrect.