Fiction-short story  
03/19/2012

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Instructions: Read each question carefully and select the correct answer.**

The train station was strangely quiet. While the sun shone through the windows, casting long beams of light onto the floor, the station attendant slowly swept the platform. Hannah sighed and looked at the clock, knowing it would be another hour before her train arrived to carry her back to the world of papers and exams. With summer drawing to a close, Hannah knew that now she only had winter break to look forward to.  
 Hannah's thoughts returned to the wonderful summer that she had spent living with her aunt and uncle on their farm. Her aunt and uncle had put her in charge of the orphaned lambs that had joined the farm during the spring storms. The lambs were such adorable creatures that it had been difficult to leave them behind. Hannah sat back on the bench and began to remember some of her favorite moments of the past summer.  
 Hannah arose to the sound of her aunt yelling from the foot of the stairs. "Hannah, you have to get up, it's nearly six o'clock," she chided.  
 "I'm awake, Aunt Josephine, and I'll be downstairs in two minutes!" With that, Hannah bolted out of bed and threw on her denim overalls. She splashed some cold water on her face and raced down the stairs, out the back door, and into the barn. She was late to feed her lambs and help milk the cows. Her uncle smiled when he saw her running up to the barn.  
 "Good morning, sleepy girl," he jokingly said. "The cows are finished eating, but your little lambs are still hungry." He handed her a bucket of food for the lambs and gave her shoulder a squeeze.  
 "Don't be too long," he continued, "or you will miss your aunt's homemade sausages and waffles."  
 Hannah walked toward the lambs, which began bleating happily when they saw her, nuzzling up to her legs, and trying to stick their faces into her bucket. "Hello little friends," Hannah said kindly. "Settle down now, and I promise that everyone will get some food." Hannah spoke calmly to the lambs as she sat down on the small wooden stool and began to feed them from her hands. When the lambs had finished eating they began to nudge Hannah's knees, and she responded by affectionately stroking the soft curly fleece on their heads. As she sat and coddled the lambs, she thought about how much she enjoyed living on the farm with her aunt and uncle...  
 Suddenly, the sharp sound of a train whistle brought her back to reality. Glancing through the window, Hannah realized that her train had arrived. As she sluggishly picked up her luggage and headed to the platform, she knew that sadly, her summer was truly over. "Maybe next year . . ." she thought as she slowly walked up the steps to the train.

**1.** Which of the following themes is best represented in this story?

**A.** family relationships

**B.** value of bravery

**C.** value of honesty

**D.** exploration

**2.** How might Hannah have finished her thought, "Maybe next year . . ."?

**A.** I will take a summer school class.

**B.** I will visit my aunt and uncle again.

**C.** I will go on vacation with my family.

**D.** I will start my own school.

**3.** What happened first in Hannah's daydream?

**A.** Hannah walked up the stairs to the train.

**B.** Hannah fed the lambs.

**C.** Hannah and her aunt and uncle ate breakfast.

**D.** Hannah's aunt woke her up.

**4.** Which of the following phrases helps to transition from paragraph seven to paragraph eight?

**A.** Glancing through the window, Hannah realized that her train had arrived.

**B.** "Hello little friends," Hannah said kindly.

**C.** Suddenly, the sharp sound of a train whistle brought her back to reality.

**D.** "Settle down now, and I promise that everyone will get some food."