Comprehension

Answer Numbers 1 through 10 on your Answer Sheet. Base your answers on the passage “Old Yeller.”

1. How are Little Arliss and the bear cub alike?
   A. They are both screamers.
   B. They are both frightened.
   C. They both are in the water.
   D. They both have hold of each other.

2. How are Travis’s and Mama’s reactions to the scene at the spring hole similar?
   F. They both go running for Papa.
   G. They both attack the mother bear.
   H. They both feel they can do nothing to help.
   I. They both encourage Little Arliss to attack the mother bear.

3. What behavior do Little Arliss and Mama have in common in this passage?
   A. hunting
   B. lying
   C. screaming
   D. swimming

4. Which sentence from the passage is an example of dialect?
   F. “I ran toward the cabin.”
   G. “My back muscles ached.”
   H. “I didn’t wait to see more.”
   I. “It was that big yeller dog.”

5. What is the meaning of the word *lick* in the sentence below?
   Then I swung my chopping axe high and wheeled, aiming to cave in the she bear’s head with the first lick.
   A. hit
   B. kick
   C. slurp
   D. taste

6. Read these sentences from the passage.
   She’d stand there on her hind feet, hunched over, and take a roaring swing at him with one of those big front claws. She’d slap him head over heels. She’d knock him so far that it didn’t look like he could possibly get back there.

   In this part of the passage, the author creates drama by using lots of exciting
   F. adverbs and nouns.
   G. nouns and pronouns.
   H. verbs and adjectives.
   I. adjectives and adverbs.
7 What is the meaning of *for a little piece* in the sentence below?

The bear chased him for a little piece, but at the rate Old Yeller was leaving her behind, Mama said it looked like the bear was backing up.

A. along the river  
B. for a bit of food  
C. for a short distance  
D. until she caught his tail

8 Read this sentence from the passage.

Old Yeller, though, all he did was come bounding in to jump on us and lick us in the face and bark so loud that there, inside the cabin, the noise nearly made us deaf.

The author most likely chose to use the word *bounding* instead of *running* because

F. *running* is the wrong part of speech.  
G. *bounding* is more specific and descriptive.  
H. *bounding* is a better example of a metaphor.  
I. *running* suggests that Old Yeller is untrained.

9 Read this sentence from the passage.

So it was only natural for me to come to love the dog that saved him.

Which word would be the best replacement for *natural* in this sentence?

A. human  
B. obvious  
C. possible  
D. unlikely

10 Which word best describes the family’s attitude toward Old Yeller at the end of the passage?

F. grateful  
G. interested  
H. jealous  
I. uncertain