Read the following passage and then answer questions 1-17.

In this passage from a 1915 novel set in Canada, two friends, Anne and Priscilla, hope to “let” (rent) a house for the year. They have just seen a sign on a house owned by two women, Miss Patty and Miss Maria Spofford.

“We—we—saw by your sign that this house is to let,” said Anne faintly, addressing the older lady, who was evidently Miss Patty Spofford.

“Oh, yes,” said Miss Patty. “I intended to take that sign down today.”

“Then—then we are too late,” said Anne sorrowfully. “You've let it to someone else?”

“No, but we have decided not to let it at all.”

“Oh, I'm so sorry,” exclaimed Anne impulsively. “I love this place so. I did hope we could have got it.”

Then did Miss Patty lay down her knitting, take off her specs,* rub them, put them on again, and for the first time look at Anne as at a human being. The other lady followed her example so perfectly that she might as well have been a reflection in a mirror.

“You LOVE it,” said Miss Patty with emphasis. “Does that mean that you really LOVE it? Or that you merely like the looks of it? The girls nowadays indulge in such exaggerated statements that one never can tell what they DO mean. It wasn't so in my young days. THEN a girl did not say she LOVED turnips, in just the same tone as she might have said she loved her mother. . . .”

Anne's conscience bore her up.

“I really do love it,” she said gently. “I've loved it ever since I saw it last fall. My two college chums and I want to keep house next year instead of boarding, so we are looking for a little place to rent; and when I saw that this house was to let I was so happy.”

“If you love it, you can have it,” said Miss Patty. “Maria and I decided today that we would not let it after all, because we did not like any of the people who have wanted it. We don't HAVE to let it. We can afford to go to Europe even if we don't let it. It would help us out, but not for gold will I let my home pass into the possession of such people as have come here and looked at it. YOU are different. I believe you do love it and will be good to it. You can have it.”

“If—if we can afford to pay what you ask for it,” hesitated Anne.

Miss Patty named the amount required. Anne and Priscilla looked at each other. Priscilla shook her head.
“I’m afraid we can’t afford quite so much,” said Anne, choking back her disappointment. “You see, we are only college girls and we are poor.”

“What were you thinking you could afford?” demanded Miss Patty, ceasing not to knit.

Anne named her amount. Miss Patty nodded gravely.

“That will do. As I told you, it is not strictly necessary that we should let it at all. We are not rich, but we have enough to go to Europe on. I have never been in Europe in my life, and never expected or wanted to go. But my niece there, Maria Spofford, has taken a fancy to go. Now, you know a young person like Maria can’t go globetrotting alone.”

“No—I—I suppose not,” murmured Anne, seeing that Miss Patty was quite solemnly in earnest.

“Of course not. So I have to go along to look after her. I expect to enjoy it, too; I’m seventy years old, but I’m not tired of living yet. I daresay I’d have gone to Europe before if the idea had occurred to me. We shall be away for two years, perhaps three. We sail in June and we shall send you the key, and leave all in order for you to take possession when you choose. We shall pack away a few things we prize especially, but all the rest will be left.”

* Eyeglasses
We—we—saw by your sign that this house is to let,” said Anne faintly, addressing the older lady, who was evidently Miss Patty Spofford.

“Oh, yes,” said Miss Patty. “I intended to take that sign down today.”

1. What emotion is Anne experiencing as she talks to Miss Patty in the excerpt above?
   A. Sadness
   B. Nervousness
   C. Excitement
   D. Amusement

2. Which of the following words in the excerpt above best supports your answer?
   A. “faintly”
   B. “older”
   C. “evidently”
   D. “intended”
Read the following excerpt and then answer both parts of the question below.

“Oh, I’m so sorry,” exclaimed Anne impulsively. “I love this place so. I did hope we could have got it.”

Then did Miss Patty lay down her knitting, take off her specs, rub them, put them on again, and for the first time look at Anne as at a human being. The other lady followed her example so perfectly that she might as well have been a reflection in a mirror.

“You LOVE it,” said Miss Patty with emphasis. “Does that mean that you really LOVE it? Or that you merely like the looks of it? The girls nowadays indulge in such exaggerated statements that one never can tell what they DO mean. It wasn’t so in my young days. THEN a girl did not say she LOVED turnips, in just the same tone as she might have said she loved her mother . . . .”

Anne’s conscience bore her up.

3. How does Miss Patty react to Anne’s statement in the excerpt above?
   A. With surprise, because she does not think her house is very desirable
   B. With irritation, because she has already told Anne that the house is not available
   C. With approval, because she likes Anne’s honesty
   D. With suspicion, because she thinks Anne might be overstating her feelings

4. Underline one of the sentences in the excerpt above that support your answer.

Answer both parts of the question below.

5. The word “reflection” (line 9) is used to show that
   A. Miss Patty is instantly fond of Anne
   B. Miss Patty cares a great deal about her own appearance
   C. Miss Patty and Miss Maria Spofford act in very similar ways
   D. Miss Maria Spofford secretly likes to tease Miss Patty

6. Which of the following words from the passage emphasizes the author’s use of the word “reflection” in line 9?
   A. “knitting” (line 7)
   B. “being” (line 8)
   C. “example” (line 8)
   D. “mirror” (line 9)
Then did Miss Patty lay down her knitting, take off her specs, rub them, put them on again, and for the first time look at Anne as at a human being. The other lady followed her example so perfectly that she might as well have been a reflection in a mirror.

“You LOVE it,” said Miss Patty with emphasis. “Does that mean that you really LOVE it? Or that you merely like the looks of it? The girls nowadays indulge in such exaggerated statements that one never can tell what they DO mean. It wasn't so in my young days. THEN a girl did not say she LOVED turnips, in just the same tone as she might have said she loved her mother . . . .”

7. What does Miss Patty criticize about girls in the excerpt above?

A. They do not use language precisely.  
B. They do not respect their elders.  
C. They are not serious about their studies.  
D. They are not certain about their goals in life.

8. Underline one of the sentences in the excerpt above that support your answer.

Answer both parts of the question below based on the whole passage.

9. How important to Miss Patty is the money from the house rental?

A. Very important, because she and Maria will be traveling to Europe  
B. Somewhat important, because she realizes that the house is valuable  
C. Not very important, because she is more concerned about who rents the house  
D. Completely unimportant, because she plans to donate the house to Anne’s college

10. Which sentence from the passage best supports your answer?

A. “Then did Miss Patty lay down her knitting, take off her specs, rub them, put them on again, and for the first time look at Anne as at a human being.” (lines 7-8)  
B. “It would help us out, but not for gold will I let my home pass into the possession of such people as have come here and looked at it.” (lines 20-21)  
C. “‘If—if we can afford to pay what you ask for it,’ hesitated Anne.” (line 23)  
D. “Miss Patty named the amount required.” (line 24)
11. How does Anne react to Miss Patty’s statement that “Maria can’t go globetrotting alone” (line 33)?

A. With confusion, because Anne does not think that Miss Patty was serious
B. With amusement, because Maria does really want to go to Europe
C. With surprise, because Maria and Miss Patty do not seem to get along well
D. With jealousy, because Anne herself has always wanted to travel to Europe

12. Which of the following phrases from the passage best supports your answer?

A. “it is not strictly necessary that we should let it at all” (line 30)
B. “We are not rich” (line 30)
C. “I have never been in Europe in my life” (line 31)
D. “Miss Patty was quite solemnly in earnest” (line 34)

13. As used in line 32, the word “fancy” most nearly means

A. decoration
B. creation
C. desire
D. elegance

14. Which word from the passage best reinforces how “fancy” is being used?

A. “expected” (line 31)
B. “wanted” (line 31)
C. “young” (line 32)
D. “alone” (line 33)
Answer both parts of the question below.

15. Which of the following best summarizes an important theme of the passage?

A. Young people should be assertive and ambitious.
   B. Feelings may be more important than money.
   C. Finding a true home can be difficult.
   D. Studying hard can be its own reward.

16. Which of the following lines from the passage most helps you understand this theme?

A. “‘We—we—saw by your sign that this house is to let,’ said Anne faintly, addressing the older lady, who was evidently Miss Patty Spofford.” (lines 1-2)
B. “No, but we have decided not to let it at all.” (line 5)
C. “I believe you do love it and will be good to it.” (lines 21-22)
D. “I have never been in Europe in my life, and never expected or wanted to go.” (lines 31-32)
17. Writing:

In the passage you just read, Miss Patty decides to rent her house to Anne and Priscilla. Imagine that a woman named Charlotte had asked Miss Patty to rent her the house before Anne did. Write a story about what you think Charlotte and Miss Patty said to each other.

Your story should include:

- a well-structured narrative of the encounter between Miss Patty and Charlotte
- dialogue between Miss Patty and Charlotte
- appropriate descriptive details
- a conclusion
- correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation