You have probably heard the expression, "You need to read between the lines." When you "read between the lines," you pick up ideas that are not directly stated in what you are reading. These implied ideas are usually important for a full understanding of what an author means. Discovering the ideas that are not stated directly is called "drawing conclusions."

Read the following ten paragraphs. Based on the information given in the paragraph, circle the letter of the most logical answer to each question. Be sure you can support your answer with evidence in the paragraph.

1. One of the most deadly sea animals looks as harmless as a bubble. In fact, you may think it is a floating, blue bubble--until it stings you. This warm-water, stinging bubble is called a man-of-war. When one of its very long, stringy arms touches a fish, it stings the fish with its deadly poison.

   The story suggests that:
   
   A. nature makes things look the way they act.
   B. no human ever lives after meeting a man-of-war.
   C. you shouldn't judge something just by its looks.
   D. nothing can kill the man-of-war.

2. Gathering mushrooms in the wild can be dangerous. According to science, there are three thousand different species, of which only a small number are edible. Many are poisonous. Furthermore, it takes an expert to tell the difference between an edible mushroom and one that could prove fatal. The safest place to gather mushrooms is not in the forest but at the supermarket.

   You can tell that:
   
   A. few people gather mushrooms.
   B. few mushrooms are safe to eat.
   C. few people die of mushroom poisoning.
   D. three thousand species are sold in stores.
3. A dentist in California had a strange patient recently. A person brought in a rug made of a real lion's skin, with the stuffed head attached. But a tooth had fallen out of the lion's wide-open mouth. So the dentist put the lion skin in the chair and went to work inside the beast's mouth. The dentist took care of the lion on his day off, so his patient wouldn't scare any other patients.

   You can tell that the:
   
   A. dentist was afraid.
   B. lion was alive.
   C. lion's head looked scary.
   D. lion's owner was afraid.

4. On May 10, 1908, Ms. Anna Jarvis originated Mother's Day. She suggested that this day be set aside to honor her own mother, who had died in Philadelphia in 1905. In 1914, the President of the United States set aside the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

   You can tell that Ms Jarvis' idea:
   
   A. was never accepted.
   B. was disliked.
   C. will never become popular.
   D. did not catch on right away.

5. Wouldn't it be wonderful if people could actually make diamonds? The simple truth is that they can. At the General Electric research laboratories, carbon was put under pressure of 800,000 pounds per square inch. The result was that actual diamonds were created. These diamonds were not very large--only about the size of a grain of salt. They were not very pretty, but they were diamonds nonetheless.

   You can tell that these diamonds are:
   
   A. not used for jewelry.
   B. the most valuable.
   C. not diamonds.
   D. the smallest possible diamonds.
6. Dinosaurs swallowed stones to help them digest their food. (Chickens do this also, but the stones they swallow are much smaller.) The juices inside the dinosaurs' stomachs made the stones smooth and shiny over a period of time. These stones are sometimes called gizzard stones or gastroliths. Naturally, they are prized by fossil collectors.

From the story, you can tell:

A. that dinosaurs and chickens have nothing in common.
B. why dinosaurs swallowed stones.
C. that dinosaur meat was delicious.
D. that the stones were swallowed by accident.

7. Those who want to learn more about the life of Helen Keller should visit Tuscumbia, Alabama, her birthplace. Each summer, William Gibson's play *The Miracle Worker* is staged there. This play dramatizes the story of Helen Keller, blind and deaf from the age of two. Her courage and the efforts of her teacher and companion, Anne Sullivan, provide audiences with an unforgettable experience.

*The Miracle Worker* is probably:

A. a long play.
B. a dull play.
C. a three-act play.
D. an inspiring play.

8. The most famous rock in America lies on the seashore at Plymouth, Massachusetts, under the protection of a large granite canopy. According to tradition, the Pilgrims stepped from their ship, the *Mayflower*, onto this rock when they landed on December 21, 1620. Today, people come from all over America to see this famous rock, which stands as a symbol of the steady courage of the Pilgrims.

Plymouth Rock is:

A. larger than the *Mayflower*.
B. a reminder of our history.
C. not well-known.
D. a famous amusement center.
9. New York City was founded as the result of a fire. In 1613, a Dutch trading ship, Tiger, was anchored off the tip of Manhattan Island. The ship was destroyed by fire. Friendly Indians sheltered the crew. This kindly welcome encouraged the Dutch to build the first trading settlement there.

The author suggests that:

A. the Indians set the fire to capture the Dutch.
B. the Dutch did not come to trade.
C. the Dutch felt safe because of the Indians' friendliness.
D. the Dutch feared the Indians.

10. One of the truly great agricultural expositions in America is held during August on a two-hundred-acre fairground in Des Moines, Iowa. The Iowa State Fair, which dates back over one hundred years, attracts half a million visitors annually. Young and old are enlightened and entertained by contests, demonstrations, agricultural and industrial exhibits, horse shows, auto races, and fireworks.

From the story, you can tell that:

A. the Iowa Fair appeals to different people.
B. the Iowa Fair is for Iowans only.
C. the Iowa Fair does not have exhibitions.
D. farmers would not enjoy the Iowa Fair.
ANSWERS

1. C
2. B
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. B
7. D
8. B
9. C
10. A