

A. Read the text carefully and answer the questions

Tommy wanted a skateboard. He looked at one every day on his way home from school, admiring it through the window of the skate shop on Market Street. It was a longboard-a serious skateboard, not meant for tricks or speed, but for long rides down hills, on busy roads, or all the way across town. This was a skateboard that could change Tommy's life forever. His parents wouldn't have to pick him up after school, or at the movies or the mall. The longboard would take him home.

It was ocean blue, with chrome wheels and an elaborate drawing of a rocket ship on the underside. Each time he pressed his face against the glass of the skate shop, he felt himself fall into that picture, and his dreams of riding the longboard became mixed up with dreams of interstellar travel. He wasn't just going to the mall. He was going to Mars, to Alpha Centauri, to anywhere in the galaxy he felt like. He was going to conquer the stars.

That if his dad weren't so mean with money. There's something about fathers that makes it impossible for them to understand skateboards.

"Dad," Tommy said. "It's the world's finest skateboard. It could change my life forever."

"That's great," said Dad. "I'm all for kids having hobbies. But that's an expensive little toy, and -"

"It's not a toy!" Tommy felt angry. "It's a whole new way of life."



1. How often did Tommy look at the skateboard?
2. What did Tommy dream of when he looked at the rocket on the skateboard?
3. What did Tommy' father think about the skateboard?
4. Tommy felt the skateboard could change his life. TRUE FALSE
5. Tommy thought the skateboard was the finest toy in the world. TRUE FALSE

B. Go on reading Tommy's conversation with his father. Complete the dialogue with words from the box. Be careful! There's an extra word.

|      |         |      |      |         |      |      |
|------|---------|------|------|---------|------|------|
| EVER | YET     | THAN | WHEN | FOR     | MORE | MOST |
|      | BECAUSE | LIKE | TO   | NEITHER |      |      |

"But Dad, you don't understand! I've wanted a skateboard (1)\_\_\_\_\_ many years! When you were my age, what was the thing you wanted more (2)\_\_\_\_\_ anything else? The thing you dreamed about?"

"A Vincent Black Shadow-the world's finest motorcycle. The (3)\_\_\_\_\_ beautiful motorcycle that has (4)\_\_\_\_\_ been made."

"So yeah, this board is (5)\_\_\_\_\_ the Vincent Black Shadow for the 21st Century. So you see why I have (6)\_\_\_\_\_ have it."

"You know what my dad told me (7)\_\_\_\_\_ I asked for a Black Shadow?"

"What?"

"Nothing. I didn't ask him, (8)\_\_\_\_\_ I knew what he would think. (9)\_\_\_\_\_ my father nor my mother could spend money on that. So I went out, got a job, and started saving. Have you saved any money?"

"Man," said Tommy. "I was afraid you'd say something like that. You know I haven't got any money (10)\_\_\_\_\_. Dads are the worst, aren't they?"



C. Go on reading about Tommy and choose the right verb.

Tommy walked up and down Market Street. He (1) **IS LOOKING / WAS LOOKING** for someplace to work. The pizzeria wasn't hiring. The coffee shop said he (2) **WAS / IS** too young. The comic book store said he didn't have enough experience.

"But how (3) **DID I GET / CAN I GET** experience if nobody (4) **GAVE / WILL GIVE** me a job?!" Tommy asked. The comic book clerk didn't answer. Tommy just said thank you, and (5) **LEAVES / LEFT**.

Tommy thought, "I (6) **HAVE ALREADY ASKED / I AM ALREADY ASKING** in practically all the stores! There (7) **WAS / IS** only one more I can go to. The candy store. I (8) **AM TRYING / AM GOING TO TRY** there. Mr Orson, the owner, (9) **COULD GIVE / USED TO GIVE** me free candies when I was a little boy. I'm sure he (10) **WILL HELP / HELPS** me."

Tommy walked to the candy store and went in.

D. Dialogue

Ted is talking to a reporter. Complete their conversation with the bubbles. Be careful! There's an extra bubble.

Mr Orson: (1) \_\_\_\_\_, Tommy?

Tommy: Mmmm ... Actually, I'm looking for a job.

Mr Orson: Really? (2) \_\_\_\_\_?

Tommy: Well, there is this skateboard I want but I don't have the money to buy it.

Mr Orson: (3) \_\_\_\_\_?

Tommy: Not really. They think it's just an expensive toy, so they won't help me.

Mr Orson: Ok, but (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that you were coming here?

Tommy: Oh, yes. In fact Dad said it was a good idea.

Mr Orson: OK, then. (5) \_\_\_\_\_?

Tommy: No, but I can learn very quickly. I'm a good learner!!!

E. Composition

Write about a film you have seen. Use the questions as a guide.

- What was the title of the film?
- Who were the characters?
- What type of film was it?
- What happens in the story of the film?
- When and where did you see it?
- Did you like it? Why? Why not?