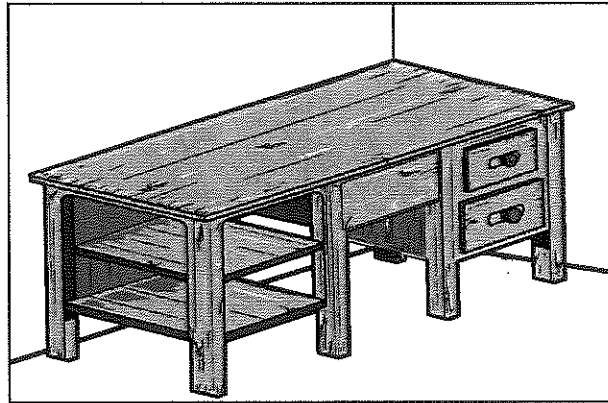


Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

## The Desk

by Donald Graves



Mother buys  
a cheap, wooden desk  
painted bright orange  
with two flimsy drawers  
5 that rattle  
when I pull them open.  
There are two open shelves  
on the side  
which can hold  
10 about twenty books.  
Mother says, "You can have  
this desk in your room  
if you want it."

Before the desk came,  
15 I only slept in my room,  
made my bed,  
picked up my dirty clothes,  
and kept only my Sunday clothes  
on a hanger in the closet.

20 I sit at the desk,  
rub my hands over the surface,  
pull open the top drawer,  
and put a box of Crayolas  
and a few pencils inside.  
25 I shut the drawer  
and I like the  
sound of the thunk  
that says the desk is mine.

I stand up beside the desk  
30 and feel the silence of the empty shelves.  
I pick up the four books I own,  
run my fingers down the bindings,  
and shelve them in alphabetical order.  
Now I have a library in my room.

35 I sit down, pull open  
the next drawer,  
bigger and deeper  
than the first.  
There, I place my maps  
40 of Europe, Asia, the United States,  
and my stamp book  
with stamps from the whole world.  
Now, any place on earth is in my room.

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1. The poet begins the last three stanzas with the word "I" in order to —
- F** suggest that the speaker does not like people coming into his room
  - G** develop the idea that the speaker's desk has a special purpose
  - H** emphasize how the speaker connects with the desk
  - J** show that the speaker spends most of his free time in his room
- 

2. From the speaker's experience, the reader can learn that —
- A** people with their own room feel more independent
  - B** something that doesn't seem promising can turn out to be a welcome surprise
  - C** collecting stamps can help people acquire more knowledge about the world
  - D** mothers always know what is best for their children
- 

3. The poet's use of sensory language in line 27 is intended to help the reader —
- F** realize that the speaker did not expect the drawer to make a sound
  - G** understand why the speaker puts drawing supplies in the drawer
  - H** imagine the sound made by the shutting of the desk drawer
  - J** know that the desk drawer now has something in it

4. Which line from the poem best suggests that the speaker feels a sense of happiness about having the desk?

- A painted bright orange
  - B rub my hands over the surface,
  - C bigger and deeper
  - D and a few pencils inside.
- 

5. The poet uses the last line of the poem to —

- F suggest that the only place the speaker would like to be is in his room
- G explain that the speaker likes to collect maps and stamps
- H emphasize that the speaker thinks that the desk has dramatically changed his room
- J show that the desk drawer is large enough to hold the speaker's maps and stamps