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Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Thesis:** A statement that you believe to be true and plan to prove using evidence and other

information. A thesis is not a simple retelling of facts, but a strong point of view on a topic

that can be argued while making interesting points and avoiding obvious claims.

**Directions:** Read the following report about bullying and then answer the multiple choice questions that follow by circling the correct letter that best identifies the thesis. Be sure to review the definition for **thesis** above.

     A bully is a person who is mean or hurtful to others. Bullies often use a combination of threats and shame to annoy others. Bullies may hurt others physically by hitting, kicking or pushing. They may also be mean by calling names, teasing, leaving a kid out of the group on purpose, or scaring others. Some bullies many even threaten people or try to make people do things they don't want to do.

1. Which sentence is the thesis statement for this paragraph?  
     
   a) Characteristics of Bullies.

b) A bully is a person who harasses a weaker peer physically, mentally, or socially.

c) Researchers agree that bullying contains three elements: aggressive and negative behavior; behavior is carried out repeatedly; one person has power over another.

d) One form of bullying is spreading gossip.

Bullying is a problem that affects many kids. Bullies may cause a person to feel scared, worried, or embarrassed. The stress of being bullied may even make a person feel physically ill. Having a bully around may make a person afraid to go to the restroom, lunchroom, or playground. Worrying about a bully may affect a person's ability to concentrate on schoolwork.

1. Which sentence is the thesis statement for this paragraph?  
     
   a) Persistent bullying may have a number of negatives effects on an individual.

b) On March 21, 1993 Curtis Taylor committed suicide after being bullied for three years.

c) In the 1990s, the United States witnessed many school shootings which were connected to bullying.

d) Effects of bullying.

People become bullies for a number of reasons. Some are looking for attention. They think that bullying is a way to be more popular. By being a bully a person is trying to make himself feel more powerful. Some bullies come from families in which name calling and pushing others around is a normal way to act. These bullies are just copying what they have learned from home.

1. Which sentence is the thesis statement for this paragraph?  
     
   a) Reasons for Bullying

b) People become bullies for all the all the wrong reasons.

c) Eighty-five percent of the time another kid witnesses a bully acting out.

d) People become bullies to gain attention, to become more popular, to feel power over others, and because they are copying behaviors of others.

Dealing with a bully may be difficult, but there are some things you can do. Sometimes you may turn a bully off just by acting brave. If you walk away, a bully will be less likely to give you trouble. You may also tell a bully to stop teasing or scaring someone else. Telling an adult is important. Teachers and parents can help. Go to recess, lunch, etc. with a buddy. Often bullies try to get a person alone before bullying. Finally don't bully back. Fighting back gives the bully what he is looking for.

In most incidences bullies get into trouble. If they continue to bully others, eventually they have few friends. The power they wish slips away. Bullies who wish popularity soon realize that they are labeled as troublemakers.

1. Which sentence is the thesis statement for this paragraph?  
     
   a) Several victims have been suing bullies directly.

b) Many schools have programs designed to teach students cooperation.

c) Kids who are being bullied can turn the situation around by trying several actions.

d) Dealing with Bullies

1. To gather more information about about bullying, the most reliable source would be  
     
   a) an encyclopedia

b) a book

c) a website

d) a librarian

e) all of the above