A Special Pet

“Mom and Dad, come and see what Uncle Philip has brought for me!” cried Anthony.

His parents greeted Uncle Philip. “It’s a pleasure to meet you,” said the parrot perched on Uncle Philip’s shoulder.

“It looks as though you got your wish, Anthony. You finally have a pet of your very own!” said his mother.

From that moment on, the bird began repeating words and sentences that it had heard in the house. “Did you enjoy the movie last night, Dear?” asked the parrot. Anthony thought he sounded like his father.

“He is very intelligent,” said Anthony enthusiastically. “I’ve decided that I’m going to name him Dr. Einstein!”

During the next few days, there was a constant stream of chatter coming from Dr. Einstein. Then one morning, the most amazing thing happened. Anthony said, “Good morning. How are you today, Dr. Einstein?”

He expected to hear the usual response, which was “Good morning. How are you today, Dr. Einstein?” Instead, the parrot said, “Good morning. How are you today, Anthony?” Dr. Einstein had called him by his name, Anthony!

Before Anthony could say a single word, Dr. Einstein said, “To tell you the truth, I don’t feel well today because I think I ate too much last night.”

Anthony was stunned and he pinched himself to make sure he wasn’t dreaming. “How did you learn to speak like that?” he asked.

“The very same way you did,” said Dr. Einstein. “By listening to others and figuring out the meanings of words.”

Anthony smiled because he knew that he had a special pet!
Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

1. What does Uncle Philip bring for Anthony?
   - a talking parrot
   - a poster of Dr. Einstein
   - a robot that looks like a bird
   - a package that he cannot open until his birthday

2. What is the meaning of **enthusiastically** as used in the sentence below?
   “He is very intelligent,” said Anthony **enthusiastically**.
   “I’ve decided that I’m going to name him Dr. Einstein!”
   - excitedly
   - lazily
   - quietly
   - sleepily

3. In the story, why does Anthony think he is dreaming?
   - He does not like birds.
   - He does not have an Uncle Philip.
   - He cannot believe that the parrot understands him.
   - He knows that his parents won’t let him have a pet.

4. At the end of the story, how does Anthony feel?
   - He is happy because he has a special pet.
   - He is angry because the parrot talks too much.
   - He is upset with his uncle because he wants a pet dog.
   - He is scared because he doesn’t like the parrot.

5. Some events in the passage could happen. Some could not. List one event that could happen and one that could not happen. Write your response on another sheet of paper.