I remember my first day at Dry Lake School so clearly. Dad drove me to school. I would take the school bus every day after that, but because it was my first day, Dad wanted to make sure I got there safely.

We had just moved from the big, hectic city to the tiny, tranquil town of Dry Lake. Mom and Dad had grown weary of city life, so we moved to this quiet little place surrounded by farmland. I couldn’t imagine what the kids here would be like. Would I have anything in common with them?

Dad dropped me at the school gates and told me he’d pick me up at three o’clock. The school was small; there was one class for each grade. The fourth-grade classroom teacher greeted me and directed me to sit at an empty desk. The other kids stared at me. I pretended to be indifferent, even though I was actually feeling pretty uncomfortable.

During lunch, a couple of my classmates asked me to join them. They were curious about life in the big city. Ben and Javier were instantly likable. In fact, most of the kids were very friendly and easygoing. Why on earth had I been so afraid of coming to school?

After school, Ben and Javier invited me to play softball with them and some other kids. My dad was already there to pick me up. “Dad, could I stay here at school?” I asked

“Sure, son. I’ll be back in two hours. Have fun!” Dad exclaimed as he pulled away.

I ran back, beaming all the way, to play softball with my new friends.
Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

1. Read this sentence from the story.
   
   We had just moved from the big, hectic city to the tiny, tranquil town of Dry Lake.

   Which two words in the sentence above have the OPPOSITE meaning?
   
   A. hectic; tranquil
   B. tiny; tranquil
   C. big; hectic
   D. just; tiny

2. How does the boy feel about being the new kid at the start of the school day?
   
   A. curious
   B. happy
   C. indifferent
   D. scared

3. What happens DURING lunch?
   
   A. A teacher greets the boy.
   B. Some classmates talk to the boy.
   C. The boy’s dad drops him off at the school.
   D. Ben and Javier invite the boy to play softball.

4. What does the boy learn in the story?
   
   A. He likes to play softball.
   B. The tiny town is not very tranquil.
   C. The other kids are indifferent to him.
   D. He has something in common with his classmates.

5. Do you think the boy will be happy at his new school? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.