Suki was a bright and pleasant student. She got high grades and she made friends easily. Yet, stepping out from the crowd was something she left to others. That is, until the spelling bee.

“The school spelling bee is coming up,” Ms. López said one day. “Today, we’re going to have a practice session. The winner will represent our class in the school spelling bee.”

After several rounds, Suki was still in the spelling bee. She had one more word to go. Suki smiled slightly and closed her eyes. She imagined the word as if it were written on a billboard in foot-high letters. The classroom was silent as Suki spelled. Ms. López nodded. Applause broke out. Suki had done it. She was the winner of the class spelling bee!

When Suki’s family learned that she had won, she found she had a very enthusiastic coach right at home. Every night after dinner, Suki and her dad would practice for the upcoming school spelling bee. This was more work than Suki thought it would be! Her dad would pick words from newspapers, magazines, and books. Suki would, as always, imagine each word in her mind and then slowly spell it, letter by letter.

By the morning of the school spelling bee, Suki knew the work had paid off. At the end of the tenth round, she was still in the bee. Strangely, the longer the bee lasted, the more confident she became. Each time her turn came, she simply closed her eyes, saw the word in her mind, and spelled it. Finally, she looked around and found herself alone on the stage. She was the school champion!
Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

1. What is the meaning of the phrase *stepping out* as used in the sentence below?

   *Yet, stepping out from the crowd was something she left to others.*
   
   - doing something different from everyone else
   - taking a break from something
   - moving your feet forward
   - leaving an area

2. What trick does Suki use to spell a word?

   - She taps her foot for each letter in the word.
   - She imagines the word written in her mind.
   - She nods her head as she spells the word.
   - She hums the word.

3. What happens AFTER Suki wins the class spelling bee but BEFORE she wins the school spelling bee?

   - Her father coaches her.
   - She makes friends easily.
   - She finds herself alone on the stage.
   - Ms. López announces that there will be a school spelling bee.

4. How is Suki different at the end of the story?

   - She is shy.
   - She is bright.
   - She is pleasant.
   - She is confident.

5. What steps does Suki take to become the school spelling bee champion? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.