Know the News: Enslaved Families Lost and Found

Read the article on pp. 18-21, then answer these questions.

1. Which is a central idea of the article?
   - A Ads taken out by ex-slaves offer new insight into how slavery tore apart African-American families.
   - B Slave labor was crucial to the South’s economy.
   - C Slave ads reunited all African-American families separated by slavery.
   - D Slave owners ran ads in newspapers to track down escaped slaves.

2. Which of the following statements best supports that central idea?
   - A “Over time, the former slaves died and the ads were largely forgotten.”
   - B “By 1804, the Northern states had all passed laws to abolish slavery.”
   - C “Historians don’t know how successful most of the [slave ad] searches were.”
   - D “Each ad tells a heartbreaking story of separation.”

3. After which war was the 13th Amendment passed, abolishing slavery?
   - A American Revolution
   - B Civil War
   - C War of 1812
   - D World War I

4. What does crucial mean in this sentence? “But in the South, slave labor was crucial to an economy and a way of life that depended on the growing of cotton and tobacco.”
   - A dangerous
   - B unnecessary
   - C essential
   - D useful

5. How does the section “Celebrating Acts of Hope” on p. 21 contribute to the article?
   - A It compares research methods of different historians.
   - B It explains how slave ads can help historians and students learn more about slavery.
   - C It highlights why only a few slaves kept diaries.
   - D It raises questions about slavery that historians hope to answer.

6. Which word best describes the tone of the article’s first few paragraphs?
   - A dramatic
   - B hopeful
   - C furious
   - D patient

7. Based on your answer to question 6, which of the following statements best illustrates that tone?
   - A “Williams was born a slave in Tennessee.”
   - B “Williams survived the brutality of growing up as a slave in the South.”
   - C “Her ad listed the details that she recalled, as well as her own contact information.”
   - D “They were placed by ex-slaves seeking loved ones from whom they’d been separated.”

8. Which of the following statements is a fact?
   - A Putting slave ads online makes more people want to read them.
   - B More ex-slaves should have placed ads searching for their families.
   - C Family is no longer as central to our lives as it once was.
   - D The U.S. government didn’t keep personal information about slaves.

9. Which was an effect of Judith Giesberg creating an online database of slave ads?
   - A Dowen Young was reunited with his mother.
   - B Slave owners were better able to track down escaped slaves.
   - C A Georgia woman found her great-great-grandfather’s family through information on the Last Seen website.
   - D More people were encouraged to write slave ads of their own.

10. How were many slaves separated from their families, according to the article?
    - A They were sold to different masters.
    - B They were freed in numerous states.
    - C They were sent to different countries.
    - D They were forced to travel together.