Know the News: The Brink of War?

Read the article on pages 14-17, then answer the questions.

1. Which event caused a crisis in January 2020?
   A. The U.S. and the United Kingdom staged a coup in Iran to install the shah.
   B. Iranians seized the U.S. embassy in Iran.
   C. The U.S. pulled out of an agreement limiting Iran’s nuclear program.
   D. The U.S. killed Iran’s top military leader.

2. The U.S. broke off diplomatic ties with Iran after dozens of Americans were taken hostage in ___.
   A. 1953
   B. 1979
   C. 1995
   D. 2015

3. What caused Iraqi protesters to break into the U.S. embassy in Iraq recently?
   A. President Donald Trump ordered the killing of Major General Qassim Suleimani.
   B. The U.S. killed 25 members of an Iranian-backed militia in Iraq and elsewhere.
   C. Iran fired missiles at military bases in the Middle East that house U.S. troops.
   D. The U.S. offered protection to the shah.

4. Which of the following is the best example of a foreign policy decision?
   A. A country tries to improve its own economy.
   B. A nation works to develop nuclear power on its own.
   C. A country imposes sanctions on another.
   D. A nation democratically elects a leader.

5. Which pair of words from the article are most similar in meaning?
   A. foes and allies
   B. escalate and negotiate
   C. sanctions and penalties
   D. volatile and diplomatic

6. What text structure does the section “How have people reacted in the U.S.?” mainly use?
   A. compare/contrast
   B. description
   C. problem/solution
   D. sequence

7. Which statement is an opinion?
   A. The U.S. and Iran have often distrusted each other.
   B. The world is safer without Suleimani.
   C. A poll showed that most Americans don’t want armed conflict with Iran.
   D. Trump said his goal was to make a better deal with Iran about its nuclear program.

8. According to the map on page 16, which country is not in the Middle East region?
   A. Afghanistan
   B. Egypt
   C. Iran
   D. Iraq

9. Which detail from the article is best supported by the “Key Moments” sidebar on page 17?
   A. “Last month, hostilities between the United States and Iran reached a crisis point.”
   B. “Experts say tensions could escalate again.”
   C. “The U.S. and Iran have a history of mistrust.”
   D. “Iran’s leaders have said their ultimate goal is to get all U.S. forces out of the Middle East.”

10. Which detail best supports the idea that “the risk of armed conflict with Iran appears to be over”?
    A. “Trump has said he is ‘ready to embrace peace.’”
    B. “[Trump] did impose additional sanctions on Iran.”
    C. “Iranian-backed militias in the Middle East could launch attacks of their own.”
    D. “Iran is likely to engage in cyberwarfare against the U.S.”