### Know the News: Women on the Front Lines

Read the article, then answer the questions.

1. Which is a central idea of the article?
   - **A** Women should be allowed to serve only in noncombat roles in the U.S. military.
   - **B** The role of women in the U.S. military has evolved in many ways over time.
   - **C** Women have gained equal standing to men in the U.S. military.
   - **D** Women have an increased leadership presence in the U.S. military.

2. Which statement best supports that central idea?
   - **A** “Today more than 210,000 women serve in the U.S. armed forces.”
   - **B** “Women have served in the armed forces since the nation’s founding.”
   - **C** “Women simply aren’t as physically strong as men.”
   - **D** “A group of women [recently] became the first to graduate from U.S. Army infantry training, a milestone two centuries in the making.”

3. How was Marine Corporal Katherine Montalbano treated differently from male troops in her unit?
   - **A** She was not considered part of the infantry.
   - **B** She was not promoted based on her service record.
   - **C** She was not allowed to use many weapons.
   - **D** She was forced to serve on the front lines.

4. Which best describes the structure of the section “A Long History of Service”?
   - **A** cause/effect
   - **B** problem/solution
   - **C** compare/contrast
   - **D** chronological

5. How are women in the military “making history”?
   - **A** They have just begun to serve as nurses.
   - **B** More women than ever before are now pilots.
   - **C** Women are serving on the front lines, in once-forbidden roles.
   - **D** Women have only recently been allowed to join the Navy.

6. Which statement is an opinion?
   - **A** Combat positions are now open to women.
   - **B** Women distract men on the front lines.
   - **C** Women make up more than 16 percent of active-duty troops.
   - **D** Women have long served in the U.S. military.

7. Based on context clues, what does *grueling* mean in this sentence: “The first female Marine infantry officer . . . completed the same grueling 13-week course as male hopefuls.”
   - **A** simple
   - **B** very demanding
   - **C** extended
   - **D** energizing

8. What obstacle has made it harder for women to obtain high-ranking military positions?
   - **A** Women had not qualified for promotions.
   - **B** Women were not as strong as men.
   - **C** Most equipment was designed for men.
   - **D** Women had been excluded from combat, a stepping stone to military leadership.

9. How does the cartoon contribute to the article?
   - **A** It highlights the progress made by women in the U.S. military.
   - **B** It shows the positions women are allowed to hold in the U.S. military.
   - **C** It highlights the lack of women in top leadership roles in the U.S. military.
   - **D** It explains why women should not have leadership positions in the U.S. military.

10. Which conclusion can you draw from the article?
    - **A** More women will likely achieve higher military leadership positions in the next decade.
    - **B** The U.S. military wants to place more limits on female troops.
    - **C** Women are unlikely to continue to have combat positions in the military.
    - **D** The role of women in the military has seen few changes in U.S. history.