1. What makes landing the hot air balloon a challenge for Keith Rodriguez?
   
   A. the gondola  
   B. the wind  
   C. the parking lot  
   D. the time of day

2. What problem does Keith Rodriguez solve?
   
   A. how to fly from Ohio to Pennsylvania in his hot air balloon  
   B. how to increase the altitude of his hot air balloon  
   C. how to safely land his hot air balloon  
   D. how to change direction on his own in his hot air balloon

3. A hot air balloon floats because the air inside the balloon is warmer than the air outside of it.

   What information from the story supports this statement?
   
   A. Hot air is lighter than cold air.  
   B. One cubic foot of air weighs about an ounce.  
   C. The air inside the balloon swirls in complicated, invisible patterns.  
   D. The hot air balloon is sinking, but still flying forward.

4. Based on information in the text, what would make a good landing area for a hot air balloon?
   
   A. a large, open space with no buildings  
   B. a large space with lots of tall buildings  
   C. a small, narrow space near a highway  
   D. a small space, such as the roof of a building

5. What is this story mainly about?
   
   A. a hot air balloon that scares lots of people when it lands in a parking lot  
   B. a hot air balloon that does not work properly  
   C. a person who gets stuck up in the air and does not know what to do  
   D. a person trying to land a hot air balloon in difficult conditions
6. Read these sentences from the text.

To drop in **altitude**, Rodriguez can pull a cord attached to a parachute valve at the very top of the balloon. Since the hottest air sits at the top, this releases the balloon's most buoyant air, which makes the balloon descend.

What does the word "**altitude**" mean in the sentence above?

A. length  
B. width  
C. height  
D. volume

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Keith Rodriguez was planning to land in a cornfield; ________, he changes his mind because of the wind.

A. previously  
B. however  
C. as a result  
D. for example

8. What effect does pulling the cord attached to the parachute valve have on Rodriguez's balloon?

Pulling the cord causes the balloon to sink, or decrease altitude.

9. Based on what the story explains about air temperature, why does pulling the cord have this effect?

Pulling the cord causes the balloon to drop because it lets hot air out of the balloon. Without as much hot air, the balloon becomes heavier and starts to sink.
10. Keith Rodriguez makes a successful but dangerous landing in a parking lot. Based on information in the story about his location, the weather, and how hot air balloons work, explain whether his decision to land in the parking lot was or was not a good idea. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Students could say that it was a good idea, citing the evidence that it was indeed a successful landing, and that he was heading toward the forest, where he wouldn't have been able to land.

Other students could say that if he had waited he might have found a better landing spot, citing evidence that Rodriguez had a lot of propane fuel, which means he could have kept the air in the balloon hot and could have floated for a long time.