Answers and Explanations

PASSAGE I

1) (Blueprints may vary)
Hunters preferred older male bobcats, which might make samples non-representative.

2) The answer is **C).** The way selection is used here implies that hunters tended to choose a certain type of bobcats more often. 'Preference' works best here, while 'assortment' and 'variety' both mean collection, and 'precision' implies exactness. Note that understanding the vocabulary in context contributed to your broader understanding/blueprinting of the passage, as you would want to understand that hunters preferred a certain type of bobcat based on the study.

3) The answer is **B)**. There are two guidelines you should follow when making inferences based on a passage. First, don't just restate the information in the passage. That's what A) does, as the paragraph outright states where the bobcats came from. Second, don't make jumps in logic. C) and D) are both guilty here, as there's no reason to believe that taxidermy mounts are being resold or that the sample is biased towards hound hunters or trappers (in fact the passage states that both were looked at). B) is best here. The passage states that selection by hunters might affect wildlife research projects, and then concludes that selection exists, so the reader can certainly conclude that research projects may be affected.

PASSAGE II

4) (Blueprints may vary)
A man with intense, unknown purpose rows upriver with his attentive, frightened daughter.

5) The answer is **A)**. This paragraph is a typical opening paragraph narrative passages. The previous sentences provide us with some description of the man and his daughter, but the real conflict is introduced when we learn that the daughter fears her father or his intentions. This also creates suspense, as the reader is unsure as to the reasons why. The other answers are also false: we have little idea as to the occupation, reasoning, or experiences of the father, which not surprisingly, creates suspense as answer choice A tells you.