Family Road Trip

Pre-reading

Questions:
• What comes to mind when you read the title?

Definitions:
• Critical – very important
• Destination – a place where someone is going

Reading

The Cruz family is preparing for their annual camping trip. It’s a family tradition. They’ve been doing it ever since their oldest child was five years old. The Cruz children are now 11, 9 and 6. Over the years, their parents have learned a lot about traveling with children.

Mom and Dad believe that organization is a critical piece to having a good trip. A week before the trip, they make a list of all the items that are needed. As soon as an item is packed into the car, it is crossed off the list.

With a little help from Mom and Dad, the Cruz children make their own lists and pack their own belongings. Each child must have at least two books, a favorite CD, a tablet, and a pencil, pen, crayons, or markers.

Reading, music, and games make the miles go much faster. The Cruz’s have 15 minutes of silent reading in the car every hour. After reading time is finished, all the readers receive a small snack surprise from Mom.

The tablet and writing tools help pass the time too. The 6 year old likes to write all the letters of the alphabet, both upper and lower case. They all like to create colorful drawings and pictures.

Music and games are a fun part of car travel. The Cruzs often sing along with their CDs. They also play car games like searching for different animals or license plates.

The Cruz family has learned how to make travel fun for the whole family. They always look forward to their trip.
Understanding

1. What does the word prepare mean? ______________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

2. How do the Cruzs prepare for their trip? __________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. How often do they take a camping trip? __________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

4. What does each child need to pack? Why? ________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

5. What kind of surprise does Mom bring? When is it revealed? ________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

6. The trip was called a tradition. Why? ____________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: Have you taken a car trip with kids? If yes, write about it.