Swimming into the New Year

Pre-reading

Questions:
• What might this story be about? Why do you think that?

Definitions:
• Bulletin – a small magazine style publication published regularly by an organization
• Income – the money that a person or business receives for work that is done
• Register – to enroll in or sign up for a class

Reading

“Swim into the new year! It’s refreshing. It’s great exercise. And, it’s just plain fun! Swimming is good for the body and the spirit. It tones muscles and relieves stress. Lessons for all ages begin January 5th at the Thorp Area School Pool.”

Sam saw the above notice about swimming lessons in the community education bulletin that was mailed to his home. “Maybe this is the nudge I need to learn to swim,” he thought.

Sam had always wanted to learn how to swim. His kids had asked that they all go swimming at the lake last summer. They went, but all Sam could do was watch from shore.

Sam decided to go for it! This would be the year he learned to swim! He called the community education office. He said, “Hi, I’d like to find out more about your adult swimming lessons.” The staff person was very friendly and answered all of Sam’s questions.

He told Sam about the different dates, times, and classes. He also described the sliding fee scale. The cost of the class is based on a person’s income. Those who earn more money, pay more for the swimming class. Those who earn less money, pay less.

Sam registered for a Saturday 8:00 a.m. class. He was both excited and nervous about his upcoming lessons. His children were thrilled! They couldn’t wait to go swimming with him next summer!
Understanding

1. How did Sam learn about the swimming classes? ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

2. What is a sliding fee scale? _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

3. Who did Sam call to find out more about the lessons? ______________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

4. What are some benefits of swimming? ____________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

5. How do Sam and his kids feel about the swimming lessons? Why? __________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: What new skills have you learned? What motivated you learn the new skills?
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