The Fire Next Time

Multiple-Choice Test
Read each question below. Then, mark the letter of the answer you have chosen.

1. “My Dungeon Shook” is a—
   A) letter to Baldwin’s nephew
   B) newspaper article
   C) letter to the editor of a newspaper
   D) sermon given in a church

6. When Baldwin writes about his experience with the Christian church, his tone is mainly—
   F) sympathetic
   G) humorous
   H) bitter
   J) hopeful

2. The title “My Dungeon Shook” suggests that—
   F) people will go underground and fight for their rights
   G) a time will come when black people are freed from the prison of racism
   H) people in jail will soon be free
   J) an earthquake will punish those who hate

7. Baldwin became interested in the Nation of Islam because—
   A) people listened intently to its speakers
   B) he was looking for a new religion
   C) he admired Elijah Muhammad
   D) his father had joined the Nation of Islam

3. The year that establishes the historical context for these essays is—
   A) 1959
   B) 1963
   C) 1973
   D) 2001

8. The purpose of Baldwin’s essays is to—
   F) discourage blacks from joining Christian churches
   G) warn against the Nation of Islam
   H) improve racial relations in America
   J) show that white people are tyrannical oppressors

4. The publication date of the essays is important to note because—
   F) many things have changed in this country since their publication
   G) Baldwin died the next year
   H) Baldwin joined the Nation of Islam that year
   J) it was the year the Emancipation Proclamation was signed

9. During his visit to Elijah Muhammad, Baldwin realizes that—
   A) the Nation of Islam will solve the Negro’s problems
   B) he does not like to do things alone
   C) he wants to join the Nation of Islam
   D) love is more important than color

5. The main idea in “My Dungeon Shook” is that black people should—
   A) rebel against the government
   B) hate white people
   C) love white people
   D) imitate white people

10. The title The Fire Next Time is—
    F) an expression of hope
    G) a prayer for America
    H) a tribute to Elijah Muhammad
    J) a warning for people to improve