Directions: Read the paragraphs and answer the questions below.

Thousands of years ago the Native people of North America had to build houses that fit their life. One kind of house was a tipi. The Plains people lived in tipis. Tipis were easy to put up and take down. In fact, it only took about half an hour to set them up. This was perfect for the Plains people who spent their time hunting and following herds of animals.

The Inuit, who lived in the cold Arctic region, spent part of the year living in igloos. Igloos were temporary homes like tipis. However, they were built for the cold winter months, whereas a tipi could be used year round. Both tipis and igloos had one main room that the family lived in and were usually made for a single family. Tipis and igloos were made of very different materials. Igloos were made from blocks of snow stacked on top of each other, while tipis were made from buffalo hide, tree bark, or grass. The shape of tipis and igloos was also different. Tipis were cone-shaped, using three or four poles for support. In contrast, igloos were dome-shaped.

1. Is this paragraph comparing and contrasting two things?
   Yes   No

2. If no, how do you know it is not a compare and contrast paragraph?

3. If yes, what two things are being compared?

4. Circle the key words in the paragraph that show that the author was comparing and contrasting information.
Are you tired of going on the same vacation year after year? Are you looking for an adventure? If you are, then a houseboat might be the thing for you. You can find places that rent houseboats in the United States, England, Asia, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. This would be a great opportunity to travel the world in a unique way. There are a wide variety of activities that you can participate in while vacationing on a houseboat. You can go fishing, swim in sparkling water, travel to different destinations, or just lie out and enjoy the sun and breeze. Cost is another factor to consider when renting a houseboat. You can actually rent a houseboat for about the same amount of money that you would spend on a nice hotel. One advantage of renting a houseboat is that you don’t have to go out to eat for every meal. Most houseboats have a kitchen area where you can cook meals. This will save you money on your vacation. So, if you want an affordable adventure, try renting a houseboat for your next vacation.

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Directions: Read the paragraph and answer the questions below.

Some settlers of the Great Plains built their houses out of sod. A sod house was made out of dirt bricks that the settlers uncovered when they plowed their fields. The settlers chose a place to build their sod house, marked out the corners in the dirt and began laying the sod bricks. They kept adding bricks until the sod house was tall enough for people to live in. The settlers left a small hole in the front for the door and an even smaller hole in the back for a window. Since the settlers didn’t have wood, they used blankets or quilts to make their door. They used paper to cover the windows. The roof was the last part added. To make this, the settlers laid long poles side by side and covered them with a thick layer of weeds and hay. Once the roof was finished, the settlers could move into their new house. Home sweet home!

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Directions: Read the paragraph and answer the questions below.

A ger is a circular tent-like home that was often used by the nomadic people of Mongolia. Gers are easy to take down and put up. In fact, once the ger is fully collapsed it only takes one animal to carry it to the next place. This is perfect for people who need to move quickly from one place to the next. Unlike the ger, an adobe house does not move. It is permanent and is meant to stay in one place for a long time. An adobe house is built using bricks made of clay, water, and straw. A ger, on the other hand, is built using wooden poles and canvas material. Adobe buildings are perfect for people who live in hot climates. The adobe bricks help the home to stay cool when it is hot. In contrast, a ger is great for both cold and warm weather.

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