Reading Comprehension Test. Herman Melville. *Moby Dick*

Name __________________________________________

Date __________________________________________

Directions: Select the best answer from the choices provided. Write the letter of your answer on the line next to the number.

_____ 1. One reason Ishmael goes to sea as a sailor is because
   a. of the opportunity to travel.
   b. of the wholesome exercise and pure air of the fore-castle deck.
   c. He wants to visit Afghanistan.

_____ 2. The Commodore on the quarter-deck gets his air
   a. fresh from the ocean breezes.
   b. second hand from the sailors on the forecastle.
   c. from special tubing connected to the quarter-deck.

_____ 3. Ishmael implies that the common people ("the commonality")
   a. enjoy the ocean breezes.
   b. believe in the power of the Fates.
   c. lead their leaders.

_____ 4. Another reason that Ishmael goes to sea as a sailor is because
   a. he gets paid.
   b. he is avoiding a debt collector.
   c. he wants to tempt The Fates with his voyage.

_____ 5. Ishmael implies that paying for things is
   a. necessary and proper for the fulfillment of our social responsibilities.
   b. one of the worst activities that humans can engage in.
   c. an urbane and marvelous activity that allows us to purchase items.