Instructions and Questions

Read Page A below from: *Naturalist: A Graphic Adaptation*

1. Are the older man and the boy the same person? Write down one reason for your conclusion.

2. What is the main point that the author is trying to make with the text?

3. Do you agree that things seem bigger when you were a young child, including animals? If yes, why do you think that’s the case? How reliable are your childhood memories?

4. Identify one way that you think the pictures helped you to understand the text better? Identify a way that the text made you think differently about the picture.

*Bring it together*: List 3 ways that you think Graphic Novels are different than just text.
Page A from *Naturalist: A Graphic Adaptation*

I estimate that when I was seven years old I saw animals at about twice the size I see them now.

So giants exist, even if adults don’t choose to classify them as such.

I tell you. This little boy’s story of medusas, rays, and sea monsters because it illustrates, I think, how a naturalist is created.

A child comes to the edge of deep water with a mind prepared for wonder.

Hands-on experience at the critical time, not systematic knowledge, is what counts in the making of a naturalist.

Better to be an untutored savage for a whale.

Better that the summer at Paradise Beach was not an educational exercise planned by adults. Better that it was an accident in a haphazard life.
Above is a page from the Graphic Naturalist with the text blanked. Look at the pictures and provide text that you think would go with each picture block labelled 1-6.

1. __________

2. __________

3. __________

4. __________

5. __________

6. __________
Read the following text taken from a page of the Graphic Naturalist. Make some simple drawings to go with the text. If you don’t have time, just do 2 drawings. Remember you are only sketching ideas, the professional team took months to complete their polished work to publish.

FOR ME, NATURE, WITH A CAPITAL N, HOLDS TWO MEANINGS.

IN THE PREVIOUS CENTURY, WHEN I WAS BORN, PEOPLE COULD STILL EASILY THINK OF THEMSELVES AS TRANSCENDENT...

DARK ANGELS CONFINED TO EARTH, AWAITING REDEMPTION BY EITHER SOUL OR INTELLECT.

NOW, MOST OF THE RELEVANT EVIDENCE FROM SCIENCE POINTS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.

WE EVOLVED THERE, STEP BY STEP ACROSS MILLIONS OF YEARS...

WE WERE BORN IN THE NATURAL WORLD...
Look at the pictures (don’t read yet) and answer the following questions

Q1: Name two actions that you observe happening

Q2: Which panel drawing interests you the most?

Q3: Do you recognize anyone on this page?

Now read the text

Q4: Do you think the text helps your understanding and supports the pictures well.

Q5: Would you like to see more text? Suggest one text edition, change, or deletion you would make.

These pages are from the short comic by Christian Cooper and Alitha E. Martinez, IT’s a BIRD.

Q6: Write a brief statement on how the two pages make you think about people and nature.