Read the story. Answer the questions.

1. What does Lan pull out of her backpack?
2. What grade is Lan in?
3. What is her teacher’s name?
4. What day and time is the conference?
5. Did Lan do something wrong?
6. What does Mrs. Carr want to show Lan’s father?
7. Does Mrs. Carr want to see Lan’s father face to face?
8. Does Lan’s father speak English very well?
9. Who can translate if Lan’s father doesn’t understand?
10. How does Lan behave inside and outside of the classroom?
11. What is the teacher concerned about?
12. Is she ahead or behind the other third grade students?
13. Does Lan’s father have many books at home?
14. Where can Lan borrow books?
15. How many minutes every evening does Lan need to spend reading?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Conference with the Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thank you for coming, Mr. Le. It’s nice to finally meet you face to face.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lan is a very nice girl. She behaves well both inside and outside of the classroom. However, I am concerned about her reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She is a little behind the other third grade students. She needs to read more at home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t worry. Lan can borrow books from the school library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please have her read for at least twenty minutes each evening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks for your support, Mr. Le. Now let me show you Lan’s report card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m glad to be here. How is my daughter doing in school?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the problem?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We don’t have many books at home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How much time does she need to spend reading at home?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I will make sure that this happens.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

--------Family Literacy: Community-Based English Tutoring Program--------
Joint project by San Diego Unified and San Diego Community College District
Ann Gianola, September 1999
Write the past tense of each verb. Then write a sentence in the past tense. Practice your pronunciation.

1. sit  
2. ring  
3. pick up  
4. say  
5. have  
6. answer  
7. come  
8. explain  
9. leave  
10. drive  
11. need  
12. give  
13. take  
14. want  
15. drink  
16. examine  
17. go back  
18. keep  
19. feel  
20. pay
A Conference with the Teacher

Listen to your teacher. Write the missing words.

Lan Le opens ______ backpack and pulls ______ a piece of orange paper. She ______, “Here, Dad. This is ______ you.”

“What is it?” asks Lan’s ____________.

“It’s a note ______ my third grade teacher, Mrs. Carr. ______ need to come to my school ______ Wednesday ______ four o’clock for a conference.”

“A conference?” asks Lan’s father. “____________ that?”

“My ____________ wants to talk to you _______ me,” says Lan.

“Did you ______ something wrong?” _______ Lan’s father.

“No!” says Lan. “Mrs. Carr ______ to ______ you my report card and … I ______ know … she wants ______ have a conference ______ you!”

“Can she ______ me?” asks Lan’s father.

“No, ______,” answers Lan. “She wants to ______ you face to face.”

“But I don’t speak _______________ very well.”

“Don’t worry! Mrs. Pham, ______ teacher’s aide, will be _______ to translate _____ you don’t understand. You have to go. _____ important!”

“Okay,” says Lan’s father. “I’ll ______. But I have to leave work early _____ Wednesday.”
Lan’s father arrives at _______ daughter’s classroom _____ four o’clock. Mrs. Carr is waiting _____ him. She smiles _____ shakes his hand.

“It’s _______nice to _______ you, Mr. Le,” says Mrs. Carr. “Lan is a good ____________ and I am very happy to have her in my ____________.”

“Thank you,” says Mr. Le. “Is _______ all?”

“No, not quite. There are a few ____________ things I would like to discuss _______ you. Your daughter is a very good ________. She behaves _______ both inside and _____________ the classroom. However, I _____concerned about her reading. She is a _____________ behind the other third ____________ students. She _____________ to read more at home.”

“We don’t have many ____________ at home,” says Lan’s father.

“That isn’t a _________________. She can borrow books from the _______________ library,” says Mrs. Carr. “I want her to spend at _________________ twenty minutes every evening reading at home.”

“Twenty minutes _______________evening. Okay,” says Mr. Le. “I will make sure that _________happens.”

“That will ____________ a lot,” says Mrs. Carr. “Thank you for ____________ support. Now, before you _____, I want you to see her report _______. Oh, good! Here _____ Mrs. Pham. She works _______ our class. ____________speaks Vietnamese and English. She can help if you have any _________________.”
Problem Solving

Below are five reasons why Lan’s father doesn’t want to go to a conference.

1. He needs to leave work early. He doesn’t want to ask the boss for time off.
2. He has a transportation problem. He doesn’t know if a city bus stops near Lan’s school.
3. He isn’t sure how to find Lan’s classroom.
4. He doesn’t speak English very well. He feels embarrassed.
5. He won’t be able to read or understand Lan’s report card.

Discuss each problem in a group. Write down some possible solutions to each problem below.

1. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
2. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
3. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
4. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
5. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________