Leading Lady

The past few months have been busy for Democrat Nancy Pelosi. In January [2007], she became the first female Speaker of the House of Representatives. The House and the Senate are the two chambers that make up the **U.S. Congress.** That branch of government makes the country's laws. "This is a historic moment for the Congress and for the women of this country," says Pelosi.

Pelosi has said that she wants to be judged by her abilities, not by her gender. "Becoming the first woman Speaker will send a message to young girls and women across the country that anything is possible for them," she adds. Pelosi leads the 435 members of the House. She is third in line for the presidency, after the vice president.
“Leading Lady” Questions

_____ 1. The main idea of this passage is:
   a. more women are getting involved in politics.
   b. Nancy Pelosi recently became the first female Speaker of the House.
   c. Nancy Pelosi is a Democrat.
   d. it is important to be judged by one's abilities, not by one's gender.

_____ 2. The following statement does not support the main idea:
   a. Having a female Speaker of the House sends a positive message to women and girls.
   b. Pelosi is third in line for the presidency.
   c. The U.S. Congress makes up the country's laws.
   d. Nancy Pelosi's becoming the first female Speaker of the House is a historic moment for Congress.

_____ 3. The Congress is made up of
   a. the Senate and the Presidency.
   b. the Supreme Court and the House of Representatives.
   c. the Senate and the Supreme Court.
   d. the House of Representatives and the Senate.

_____ 4. Pelosi leads the
   a. Senate.
   b. House of Representatives.
   c. Supreme Court.
   d. President.

_____ 5. What other details could you add to this passage that would support the main idea?

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Name: ___________________________ Date: ______________

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MI  2. The following statement does not support the main idea:
   a. Having a female Speaker of the House sends a positive message to women and girls.
   b. Pelosi is third in line for the presidency.
   c. The U.S. Congress makes up the country’s laws.
   d. Nancy Pelosi’s becoming the first female Speaker of the House is a historic moment for Congress.

CI/Ca  3. The Congress is made up of
   a. the Senate and the Presidency.
   b. the Supreme Court and the House of Representatives.
   c. the Senate and the Supreme Court.
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   a. Senate.
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   Answers will vary but may include more information on the political career or personal life of Nancy Pelosi and how she became the Speaker of the House.