Name _____

The Book of Sirach

Directions: Read the cited scripture passages from the book of Sirach and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. The book of Sirach receives its name from the author who was
   _____.

2. The original title of this book was _____.

3. The author's grandson translated the book from Hebrew into _____.

4. Early Christians used the book extensively for
   _____
   _____.

5. Sirach is the only book of the Bible that has a foreword written by the translator of the book. At the end of that foreword, the translator states his purpose for working so hard on the book. He did it for:
   _____
   _____.

6. The book reflects the religious and social customs of the day, and the author groups the writings and wisdom on these matters according to topics. Some of the matters he discusses are:
   chapter 2: _____
   chapter 3: _____
   chapter 7: _____ and
   _____
   chapter 20: _____

7. Chapters 44–50 are writings which give praise and honor to
   _____ who the author sees as models of behavior.

8. Good and right conduct should be a part of every aspect of our lives. No place is too insignificant to be filled with God's goodness, for example, as when the author in Sirach 31:12 gives advice concerning
   _____.

9. The author gives much good advice for living a good and wise life that reflects the goodness of God. Like so much of the other wisdom literature, it is practical in nature. For instance:
   A. In Sirach 13:25, what is the sign of a good-hearted person?
      _____
   B. What three things does the Lord delight in, according to Sirach 25:1?
      _____, _____, and _____
   C. In Sirach 40:17, what two things does the author think will never cease? _____
      and _____
   D. According to Sirach 29:21, what are the four basic necessities of life? _____,
      _____, _____, and _____

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Lesson 44 continued

E. In Sirach 39:26, however, the author lists ten necessities for life. What are they?
_____,   _____,   _____,
_____,   _____,   _____,
_____, _____, _____, and
_____.

F. The author of Sirach could be termed one of the earliest environmentalists. What phrase does he use for the earth in Sirach 40:1? _____

G. What is the meaning of Sirach 13:1?
_____

H. Sirach also gives us a glimpse into Israelite life of the time. List the six professions of the Israelites of the second century B.C.E.
1. Sir 38:24 _____   4. Sir 38:28 _____
2. Sir 38:25 _____   5. Sir 38:29 _____
3. Sir 38:27 _____   6. Sir 38:33 _____

10. If we have lived a good life, have been wise in our dealings in our everyday life, and have been faithful to the Lord's commands, then as Sirach 41:3 says, we do not have to fear _____.

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