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## **GED READING**

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions.

Maria had always been a resilient person. Growing up in a small town, she faced many challenges but remained determined to achieve her dreams. Her family struggled financially, which meant Maria had to work part-time jobs throughout high school to help make ends meet. Despite these obstacles, she worked hard in school, never losing sight of her goal to attend college.

When Maria finally received a scholarship to a nearby university, she was over joyed. However, her path was still not easy. Juggling classes, a job, and family responsibilities often left her exhausted. But each time she felt overwhelmed, she reminded herself of her long journey and the sacrifices she had made to get this far. Gradually, Maria realized that her hardships had made her stronger and more resilient. She learned that adversity was not a roadblock but a stepping stone toward her future.

- 1. What is the main idea of the passage?
- 2. Which of the following best describes Maria's character?
- 3. Why did Maria work part-time jobs in high school?
- 4. In the passage, what does "adversity" most closely mean?
- 5. What lesson did Maria learn from her experiences?