Cause and Effect

Read the story. Then answer the questions.

School starts in a week and today is the day we go shopping for school supplies! I told mom that I didn’t need anything. I loved my backpack from last year. It had a picture of Topaz, my favorite rock singer. It even had her autograph across the bottom of her picture. I couldn’t wait to get it out and check my supplies.

When I pulled out my backpack from the back of my closet, I was horrified at how dirty it was. Somehow, over the summer, a strap was broken, the color was faded, and the zipper was stuck. There was a dark spot right on Topaz’s chin and you could hardly read her signature any more. When I looked inside, I found papers that were stuck together from an open glue bottle. I wondered who took the cap off of my glue bottle. There was a library book I borrowed and forgot to return. My markers had escaped from the box and the caps were mysteriously missing. My lucky pencil was too short to write with anymore. I discovered the dark spot on Topaz’s chin was from the cupcake I packed away from the end-of-the-year picnic. The frosting melted all over my notebooks and scissors. I decided it was time to make my list of new school supplies.

1. Why didn’t the main character think she needed new school supplies?

2. What caused her to change her mind?

3. What caused the dark spot on her backpack?

4. Why couldn’t the markers be used?

5. How do you think the cap came off of the glue bottle?

6. What synonym for autograph is used later in the story?