A car called Bluebird

The great racing driver, Sir Malcolm Campbell, was the first man to drive at over 300 miles per hour. He set up a new world record in September 1935 at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah. Bluebird, the car he was driving, had been specially built for him. It was over 30 feet in length and had a 2500 horse-power engine. Although Campbell reached a speed of over 304 miles per hour, he had great difficulty in controlling the car because a tyre burst during the first run.

After his attempt, Campbell was disappointed to learn that his average speed had been 299 miles per hour. However, a few days later, he was told that a mistake had been made. His average speed had been 301 miles per hour. Since that time, racing drivers have reached speeds of over 400 miles an hour. Following his father's footsteps many years later, Sir Malcolm's son, Donald, also set up a world record. Like his father, he was driving a car called Bluebird.

Questions

1. State in your own words what the author means when he says: "Following his father's footsteps many years later, Sir Malcolm's son, Donald, also set up a world record." (2 marks)

2. Say in each case whether the statement is true or false according to the text. Write T or F. If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it as false. (2 marks)

   a) Malcolm Campbell was a racing driver.  
   b) Bluebird was a small car.  
   c) Racing drivers can now reach over 400 miles per hour.  
   d) Donald was Malcolm Campbell's brother.
3. These words are found in the text: driver, first, set up, built, feet, engine, speed, burst, disappointed, average, mistake, footsteps. Choose the ones that mean the same as the following: (2 marks)

   a) established __________________
   b) exploded __________________
   c) discontented, annoyed ____________
   d) error, misunderstanding __________

4. Choose a, b or c after each statement below. Only one answer is correct. (2 marks)

   1. Malcolm Campbell's record was established in ...
      a) the United States.
      b) the United Kingdom.
      c) France.

   2. Bluebird had been built for ...
      a) Malcolm Campbell.
      b) Bonneville Salt Flats.
      c) Donald Campbell.

   3. A ... exploded during the first run.
      a) tyre
      b) Bluebird
      c) beautiful woman.

   4. Donald also established ...
      a) a world record.
      b) a new car.
      c) a bluebird.

5. Answer the following questions: (2 marks)

   a. What is your personal opinion about the importance of car technology?

   b. Would you like to drive a racing car? Why? Why not?