Graphing to solve distance & time problems

Our class visited Eastern Illinois University last semester and this is a description of the bus journey. We left school at 10:00 am. We traveled for one half hour at forty miles per hour then for one hour at fifty miles an hour. We had one half hour stop for lunch then we traveled for two hours at fifty-five miles an hour.

1. Complete this table showing the distances traveled by the end of each stage of the bus trip.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time in hours (x)</th>
<th>10:00</th>
<th>10:30</th>
<th>11:30</th>
<th>12:00</th>
<th>2:00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distance from home in miles (y)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Draw a distance-time graph for our class bus trip to Eastern Illinois University on the grid below and answer the questions.

3. We left at 10:00.
   Use a dot to mark the starting point of this trip.
   What are the coordinates of the starting point of this trip? __________

4. We traveled for one half hour at 40 miles per hour.
   What time is it? __________
   How many miles have we traveled? __________
   What is the second coordinate? __________
   Use a ruler to connect the first and the second coordinate.

5. The speed limit changed and we traveled for one hour at 50 miles per hour.
   What time was it? __________
   How many miles are we from school? __________
   What is the third coordinate? __________
   Use a ruler to connect the second and third coordinates.
   What is the average speed since we left school? __________

6. We had a half hour stop for lunch.
   What time was it? __________
   How many miles are we from school? __________
   What is the fourth coordinate? __________
   Use a ruler to connect the third and fourth coordinates.
   What is the average speed since you left school? __________

7. Finally we traveled two hours at 55 miles per hour to arrive at our destination.
   What time was it? __________
   How many miles are we from school? __________
   What is the last coordinate? __________
   Use a ruler to connect the fourth and last coordinates.
   What is the average speed for the bus trip? __________