5.
a) 

d) 500x375 -> 500x175  
e) reduceHeight 200

f) The resized image looks horrible. It has tons of artifacts and looks very unnatural. This image is very hard to resize with seam carving because it has so much detail, and very few horizontal segments of any kind. The seams cut through solid colored areas, which
resulted in many of the food labels being distorted.

a)

b)

c)
d) 500x375 -> 300x375  
e) reduceWidth 200

f) The important parts of the image are kept largely intact. The people and the pier are in good shape (the pier is a little distorted), and the seals all mostly remain. Most of the sand in between the seals is removed, as is some of the water along the right.

a)
d) 500x375 -> 300x375  
e) reduceWidth 200  
f) The entire right side of the picture is pretty dark, so it was removed first. Then, all the vertical branches/trunks were shrunk down to be very very skinny.

a)
d) 500x500 -> 300x300
e) reduceWidth 300, reduceHeight 300
f) Because the empty squares have much less variation than the pieces, all the empty squares were shrunk quite a bit, while the pieces remain mostly intact. Consequently, the chess board looks very very wrong.

(Image source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/seeminglee/1479932683/)

a)
c)

d) 500x375 -> 200x225
e) reduceWidth 300, reduceHeight 150
f) The resized image is quit good. The boat was kept fully intact, the beach is in pretty good shape, and a lot of the detail in the water remains. The clouds got rearranged and look a little funky though.

(Image source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/js_roy/115482768/)

a)
d) 500x325 -> 200x325

e) reduceWidth 300

f) The black edges of the picture are removed as expected, but afterwards, the most
efficient path from top to bottom passes through the yellow parts of the sign, shrinking it
down to just be an outline of the text/image on the sign.

(Image source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/neil_b/106927604/)