

Some communities in Florida are populated almost exclusively by retired people and contain few, if any, families with small children. Yet these communities are home to thriving businesses specializing in the rental of furniture for infants and small children.

**1. Which of the following, if true, best reconciles the seeming discrepancy described above?**

- (A) The businesses specializing in the rental of children's furniture buy their furniture from distributors outside of Florida.
- (B) The few children who do reside in these communities all know each other and often make overnight visits to one another's houses.
- (C) Many residents of these communities who move frequently prefer renting their furniture to buying it outright.
- (D) Many residents of these communities must provide for the needs of visiting grandchildren several weeks a year.
- (E) Children's furniture available for rental is of the same quality as that available for sale in the stores.

Worldwide demand for corn has remained flat for the past five years, as has the production and the price of corn. Yet, last year, corn growers reported a 15 percent increase in profits over the previous year's level.

**2. Which of the following statements, if true, would most resolve the discrepancy outlined above?**

- A. Many countries are pursuing alternative fuel plans based on ethanol, a corn based alcohol.
- B. Demand for wheat, barley, and rice has also remained flat for the past five years.
- C. There are fewer family farms and more large corporate farms today than there were five years ago.
- D. A new machine allows corn growers to cut harvesting time by a third and save money on expensive labor costs.
- E. Some corn produced in the last year has not been sold and has gone to waste.

Alcohol consumption has been clearly linked to high blood pressure, which increases the likelihood of developing heart disease. Yet in a study of the effects of alcohol consumption, the incidence of heart disease was lower among participants who drank moderate quantities of alcohol every day than it was among participants identified as nondrinkers.

**3. Which one of the following, if true, most helps to resolve the apparent discrepancy in the information above?**

- A. Because many people who do not drink alcohol are conscious of their health habits, they are likely to engage in regular exercise and to eat nutritionally well-balanced meals.
- B. Many of the participants identified as nondrinkers were people who had been heavy drinkers but had stopped drinking alcohol prior to participating in the study.
- C. Some of the participants who drank moderate quantities of alcohol every day said that they occasionally drank large quantities of alcohol.
- D. Some of the participants who drank moderate quantities of alcohol every day had high blood pressure.
- E. The two groups of participants were similar to each other with respect to the participants' age, sex, geographical origin, and economic background.