

of Springhill frequently must declare a water emergency, making it temporarily unlawful to use water for nonessential purposes as car washing. These emergencies could be avoided if Springhill would offer permanent economic incentives for water conservation. Actually, Springhill discourages water conservation because each household pays a modest flat fee for any amount of water below a certain threshold, and a substantial per-liter rate only after the threshold is reached.

Which one of the following, if true, most strengthens the argument?

(A) Springhill authorities do a poor job of enforcing its water emergency laws and many people break the laws without incurring a penalty.

(B) The town council of Springhill recently refused to raise the threshold.

(C) The threshold is kept at a high enough level to exceed the water requirements of most households in Springhill.

(D) The threshold is not as high in Springhill as it is in neighboring towns.

(E) The threshold remains at the predetermined level specified by law until a change is approved by the Springhill town council.

17. When a community opens a large shopping mall, it often expects a boost to the local economy, and in fact a large amount of economic activity goes on in these malls. Yet the increase in the local economy is typically much smaller than the total amount of economic activity that goes on in the mall.

Which one of the following, if true, most helps to explain the discrepancy described above?

- (A) When large shopping malls are new they attract a lot of shoppers but once the novelty has worn off they usually attract fewer shoppers than does the traditional downtown shopping district.
- (B) Most of the money spent in a large shopping mall is spent by tourists who are drawn specifically by the mall and who would not have visited the community had that mall not been built.
- (C) Most of the jobs created by large shopping malls are filled by people who recently moved to the community and who would not have moved had there been no job offer in the community.
- (D) Most of the money spent in a large shopping mall is money that would have been spent elsewhere in the same community had that mall not been built.
- (E) Most of the jobs created by the construction of a large shopping mall are temporary, and most of the permanent jobs created are low paying.