

*Questions 172-175 refer to the following article,*

### **Thoughts on Sharing Economy**

By Adriana Solo

In recent years, mobile applications and Web sites have made it easier and cheaper for people to do things like get a ride, find a place to stay, or arrange a babysitter. Referred to as "the sharing economy," this new Internet-dependent system brings more wage-earning opportunities to a wider range of people. However, as the practice of purchasing services from individual people rather than conventional businesses grows in popularity, some municipalities have opted to regulate it, or even ban it outright.

Ghorinburg, for instance, has emerged as a strong opponent of the sharing economy and the local government has prohibited residents from participating in it. Mayor of the city, Robert Smollet, who became mayor last year in a landslide victory, says that its advantages are not as great as they seem on the surface. "When you can hire someone to work on a freelance basis for a lower rate, why bother going to a company that will charge much more? Ultimately, the sharing economy can cause businesses to close and the people who work for them to lose their jobs."

Ghorinburg does not stand alone, as other municipalities across the nation are following suit. In smaller cities, like Browenville, Marog, and Quentintown, where local businesses play a vital role in the growth of the economy, restrictions have likewise been adopted. Only time will tell whether attitudes remain this way, as technology is certain to spread to even more aspects of our lives.

172. What is the main topic of the article?
- (A) The profitability of innovative services
  - (B) Consumption patterns among online shoppers
  - (C) The adoption of new training programs
  - (D) Opposition to an economic trend

173. What does the article suggest about the sharing economy?
- (A) It allows workers to charge more for their services.
  - (B) It has encouraged charitable giving in a local community.
  - (C) It benefits individuals more than traditional companies.
  - (D) It can function without the Internet.

174. What happened last year in Ghorinburg?
- (A) A mobile application was introduced.
  - (B) A new mayor was elected to office.
  - (C) A business association held a protest
  - (D) A ban against the sharing economy was lifted.

175. What is mentioned about Browenville?
- (A) Its residents are largely unwilling to adopt new technologies.
  - (B) Local businesses are essential to its economic development.
  - (C) The local government encourages participation in the sharing economy.
  - (D) Its employment opportunities have been declining in recent years.

*Questions 176-180 refer to the following advertisement and form,*

### **Bulk Land Supermarket**

Make your weekly grocery shopping much quicker and easier by signing up today with Bulk Land Supermarket! We operate differently from other grocery stores. Unlike most supermarkets, we have no actual retail outlets. You can simply browse through our online shop from the comfort of your home. After you place your order, we deliver it right to your door.

We also encourage our customers to buy in bulk. By purchasing large quantities of products, you can save up to half off each item. To start browsing our wide range of groceries, go to [www.bulkland.com](http://www.bulkland.com). Choose your ideal delivery time, and everything is done!

This month, we're offering a number of special deals. To begin with, if you book a delivery before November 15, we'll give you a voucher for 5 percent off your next purchase. In addition, we offer free shipping on all orders over \$100. Finally, all customers who sign up this month and order a 5 kilogram bag of rice will be provided a free storage bin that will keep your grains fresh and dry.

### **Bulk Land Supermarket Online Order Form**

Name: Alexander Johnson

Address: 2235 West Grovers Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Customer account number: 054489

Points accumulated: 2,300

Order date: November 11

Product Number	Product Name	Price
P889	Whole wheat pasta, 5kg	\$18
R426	Rice, 3kg	\$22
T114	Canned chick peas, pack of 12	\$15
T526	Canned chopped tomatoes, pack of 12	\$11.50
B496	Chunky organic peanut butter, pack of 6	\$21.50
Total		\$88

When would you like your order delivered? Please indicate the date and time below. If we cannot deliver on your selected date and time, we will contact you as soon as possible to arrange an alternative time.

Around 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 13

**SEND**

176. What is stated about Bulk Land Supermarket?

- (A) It has a minimum order requirement.
- (B) It introduces new deals every month.
- (C) It will not deliver to some residences.
- (D) It does not have any physical stores.

177. In the advertisement, the word "comfort" in paragraph 1, line 4, is closest in meaning to

- (A) alleviation
- (B) service
- (C) consolation
- (D) ease

178. According to the advertisement, what is a benefit of buying large amounts at Bulk Land Supermarket?

- (A) Wider product options
- (B) Lower packaging costs
- (C) Cheaper prices on products
- (D) Better membership incentives

179. What can be inferred about Mr. Johnson?

- (A) He has placed orders with Bulk Land Supermarket before.
- (B) He did not get his preferred delivery date.
- (C) He will receive his order on Thursday night.
- (D) He will call Bulk Land Supermarket to confirm his order.

180. What special offer is Mr. Johnson eligible for?

- (A) A coupon for a future purchase
- (B) A complimentary item of his choice
- (C) A free delivery to his location
- (D) An immediate discount on his order

*Questions 181-185 refer to the following letter and e-mail.*

March 23

Brittany Cosmetics  
Carla Danbury  
3411 Appleton Way  
Portland, OR 97035

Dear Ms. Danbury,

It is that time of year to prepare for the 15th Annual Organic Beauty Product Fair! This year, the event will be held at the Seacrest Convention Center in Seattle from July 8 to 10.

As your company was a vendor during last year's event in Denver, we would like to offer you a 15 percent discount on booth and equipment rentals for this year's fair. For your convenience, I have enclosed a complete schedule of events, and included an application form containing information on pricing.

A hotel is attached to the convention center, and all companies with booths at the fair are eligible to reserve rooms at a reduced rate of \$120 per night. Please contact us if you want to make a booking. In addition, free Wi-Fi is offered throughout the center, so you will have access to the Internet from your booth.

The applications and complete payment are due by May 15. You can remit payment by cash, check, or bank transfer. If you have any questions or require any further information, please send an e-mail to [toddbanks@tradevent.com](mailto:toddbanks@tradevent.com).

Sincerely yours,

Todd Banks  
Corporate Event Planner Tradevent Incorporated

TO	Todd Banks < <a href="mailto:toddbanks@tradevent.com">toddbanks@tradevent.com</a> >
FROM	Carla Danbury < <a href="mailto:cdan@brittanycos.com">cdan@brittanycos.com</a> >
SUBJECT	Trade Fair
DATE	March 25

Dear Mr. Banks,

Thank you for the letter. We would like to be involved in the trade fair again this year, as we received a lot of product orders during the last event. I mailed you our application this morning along with a check to pay for our fees. Please send me a receipt by e-mail once the check has been deposited.

Also, I am interested in booking some hotel rooms for my staff and me. We will need three rooms for the duration of the trade fair. Please let me know if there is anything I have to do to secure the rooms. For instance, do I need to pay the full amount up front or can I leave a deposit?

Thanks for your assistance, and we look forward to taking part in another successful event.

Regards,  
Carla Danbury  
Owner, Brittany Cosmetics

181. What is mentioned about the Seacrest Convention Center?  
(A) It is fully booked for the upcoming trade event.  
(B) It is located far from any accommodation facilities.  
(C) It provides vendors with complimentary Internet access.  
(D) It hosts the beauty product fair every year.

182. Where can Ms. Danbury find information on Tradevent Incorporated's prices?  
(A) On an application form  
(B) In an advertising flyer  
(C) On a corporate Web site  
(D) In a trade Journal

183. What is implied about Brittany Cosmetics?  
(A) It is ineligible for a rental price reduction.  
(B) It is in the process of expanding its range of products.  
(C) It had satisfactory results at an event in Denver.  
(D) It registered for a trade fair online.

184. What does Ms. Danbury inquire about?  
(A) Extra tickets  
(B) Hotel amenities  
(C) A detailed floor plan  
(D) A reservation procedure

185. In the e-mail, the phrase "taking part in" in paragraph 3, line 1, is closest in meaning to  
(A) supporting  
(B) encouraging  
(C) joining  
(D) competing