

UNIT 5 ADDICTIONS

Read the following text and do the exercises.

(๖๓๖๓)๖ ♥ Good luck ♥

Greek law prohibits the sale of alcoholic drinks to children younger than 18 years old, or their entry to bars and clubs. Yet these laws are never enforced and, what's worse, a lot of places sell potentially lethal adulterated spirits.

Alcohol consumption among teenagers in Greece is widespread, largely because it is considered socially acceptable, even taking place in the home. According to a study on youngsters up to 16 a 94.1% of respondents had consumed alcohol.

"Alcohol-related harm is the third biggest factor in the rise of morbidity and mortality in Europe. At the same time, it is a legal and very widely available product that is economically important to businesses and states. All of **this** requires a multidimensional approach to the issue, but under no circumstances should we treat alcohol as something innocent, especially when it comes to young people," said a clinical psychologist.

"Children in Greece first taste alcohol much sooner than in other European countries and many parents actually encourage their children to taste it at a very young age," added the clinical psychologist.

Besides alcohol consumption in general tends to be higher in rural parts of the country than in Athens and other cities. That said, alcohol consumption among minors has decreased steadily since the 1980s, pointing to more public awareness.

"People need to acknowledge that alcohol is not harmless. It is an addictive substance like nicotine and narcotics," said the clinical psychologist. "The main thing is to educate children at school and in the home. Banning it is not the way to really solve the problem, especially when it comes to teens who see breaking a ban as a challenge."

Experts want to see more being done to tackle the phenomenon on every level and point to the proliferation of sweet fizzy drinks that contain alcohol as a sign that there is not enough awareness on the part of the state and consumers.

A. Choose the best answer a, b or c for the following questions.

1. Who is this text addressed to?
a. researchers b. parents and teenagers c. general public
2. The clinical psychologist considers the problem
a. partially solved b. simple c. complicated
3. Who is to blame for the problem?
a. lack of regulation enforcement b. teenagers c. parents
4. The roots of the problem lie at the fact that
a. alcohol is part of our tradition b. Greek society is rather tolerant
c. alcohol is essential to economic boost
5. What does the word **this** in the third paragraph refer to?

