

1.

Bright Side did some research on many places throughout the world where you can buy a house for 1 dollar or for free!

Roubaix, France

If you like France, Roubaix located in the north of France is just for you. The local authorities want it to be populated and attractive. You can buy a small house in the industrial district for just \$1. The buyer is supposed to live in this house for 3 years.

Buffalo, USA

Buffalo offers whoever qualifies to buy a house for \$1. All you need is to be a lawful citizen of the city and invest amount of money into its decoration. Doing this, the authorities are hoping to make the city beautiful again without spending money.

Liverpool, Great Britain

In Liverpool, most of houses were abandoned by the working class during the years of unemployment. The government is trying to sell the houses for just \$1. If you want to buy such a house, it has to be your first deal on buying property (不动产).

Candela, Italy

If you still have any doubts about spending \$1 on a house, you should know: the government will pay you some money, if you move to Candela. In order to be paid, you need to become a permanent citizen and have an income of \$7500 per year. If moving alone, you will get \$700, and if you are going with your family, the pay can be four times as much as only one person.

For more information of other cities, please Click Here.

【1】Which of the following statements is TRUE?

- A.It is impossible to buy a house for \$1.
- B.The houses in some parts of the world are sold for \$1 just for the same reason.
- C.The authorities of Roubaix want more people to live there.
- D.In Liverpool unemployed people have a lot of houses.

【2】Why do the authorities of Buffalo provide a house for people with \$1?

- A.To improve the lives of poor people. B.To solve the problems of employment.
- C.To make the city attractive at no cost. D.To attract people to the big cities.

【3】What is required to buy a house for 1 dollar in Liverpool?

- A.You must be making the first house purchase.
- B.You should live in the house for 3 years.
- C.You need to be an unemployed citizen.
- D.You have to repair and decorate the house.

【4】How much money can you get if moving to Candela with a whole family?

- A.\$1 B.\$2800 C.\$700 D.\$7500

【5】Where is this passage most likely to come from?

- A.a novel. B.a magazine. C.a letter. D.the Internet.

2.

Simon Groot of the Netherlands introducing high-quality vegetable seeds (种子) to more than 60 countries, was awarded the 2019 World Food Prize.

He is the sixth generation of the Groot family to develop seeds and began his search to create better vegetable seeds to help farmers in Southeast Asia in 1981. He was 47 and his family's company had just been taken over by a larger professional company.

Sixteen years earlier, he made his first trip to Indonesia. There, Groot learned that vegetable seeds did woefully when planted in the hot tropics (热带). He thought there was a great possibility to introduce hybrid vegetables to the area. The area wasn't suitable for these vegetable seeds which were developed for the moderate (温和的) climate of Europe and lacked vegetable seed developers who were trying to create hybrids for the local climate.

Groot partnered with seed trader Benito Domingo of the Philippines. They put together a team of seed researchers and growers from Wageningen University in the Netherlands and the University of the Philippines. Within a few years, they developed a hybrid bitter melon (苦瓜) that sold well. Then they changed a tomato plant, followed by eggplants, pumpkins and leafy vegetables. The early successes led to the start of the East-West Seed Company, which now has more than 970 improved seeds of 60 vegetable crops. It is reported that the company's seeds are used by 20 million farmers each year in more than 60 countries, said Kenneth Quinn, the former U.S. ambassador to Vietnam.

Of Groot, Quinn said, "He's a truly excellent person with worthy accomplishments that should be recognized."

The award was stated during a ceremony hosted by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. "The improvements made in these tropical vegetable seeds helped small farmers in developing nations produce more food and importantly get more income for themselves and their families," Pompeo said.

【1】Why was Groot awarded the 2019 World Food Prize?

- A.Because he is the sixth generation of the Groot family.
- B.Because his family's company is a large professional company.
- C.Because he helped create better vegetable seeds to help farmers in Africa.
- D.Because he introduced better vegetable seeds to more than 60 countries.

【2】What does the underlined word "woefully" in Para. 3 mean?

- A.Poorly. B.Well. C.Normally. D.Scientifically.

【3】What do you know about the East-West Seed Company?

- A.Its business is centered in central Asia. B.Its seeds have benefited many farmers a lot.
- C.It was started by Groot and local farmers. D.It is changing the seed industry around the world.

【4】Quinn thinks that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A.Groot doesn't care about the award B.Groot deserves the award
- C.Groot's contribution is of no value D.Groot will donate his prize to poor farmers

【5】How did Pompeo think of the improvements made in tropical vegetable seeds?

- A.Positive. B.Doubtful. C.Interested. D.Confused.

3.

Many people turn to doctors or self-help books, but they forget a great thing that could help them fight illness: their friends.

Researchers are only now starting to pay attention to the importance of friendship in health. A 10-year Australian study found that older people with a large circle of