

Name: _____

Lesson 21

Period: _____

The Mystery of the Missing Pubs

Directions. Read the *Handy Dandy Guide* and the mystery. Read the clues. Be careful.

While all the clues are correct, only some are *useful* in solving the mystery. Decide which clues are most relevant to solving the mystery. Use the clues and one or more of the ideas from the *Handy Dandy Guide* to figure out a solution to the mystery. Write your solution.

Handy Dandy Guide

1. People *choose*.
2. People's choices involve *costs*.
3. People respond to *incentives* in predictable ways.
4. People create *economic systems* that influence individual choices and incentives.
5. People gain when they *trade* voluntarily.
6. People's choices have consequences that lie in the *future*.

The Mystery

Pubs are central to social life in Ireland. They serve as social centers for neighborhoods, providing people with places to meet for business and pleasure.

Ireland in the 1990s has had a strong economy. The “Celtic Tiger” is the envy of Europe. Given the attachment of many Irish people to the pubs, and given the recent strength of Ireland's economy, you might suppose you could find a pub on every corner in Irish towns and cities. But generally this is not so. Even in Dublin, there are some neighborhoods with only a handful of pubs to serve thousands of people.

Why are there so few pubs in Dublin?

The Clues

1. Ireland has a population of just over 3.6 million people.
2. The population of Ireland is 93 percent Roman Catholic.
3. Ireland has 26 counties.
4. In 1902, a law aimed at reducing drinking was passed in Ireland; it limited the number of pub licenses at the level then in existence.
5. In 1997, Ireland's Real Gross Domestic Product increased by 6 percent.
6. Over 40 percent of the Irish population resides within 60 miles of Dublin.
7. In 1902, a law was enacted which barred the transfer of pub licenses across county lines.
8. A 1960s law prohibits building new pubs within one mile of an existing pub (in rural areas).
9. Pub owners in Ireland have an organization that has fought efforts to change the old laws and permit licenses for new pubs to be issued.

Record your solution and explain it briefly here:
