



Read the news article carefully. Classify whether each statement is a **FACT** or **OPINION**, then explain your reasoning in full sentences.

News articles mix reporter facts (verified data) with opinions from sources. Look for: statistics = often fact; quotes with "I think/best/should" = usually opinion.

New Community Garden Sprouts in Willow Creek



Willow Creek, April 15, 2024 — The town of Willow Creek

celebrated the grand opening of its first community garden last Saturday. Located on the corner of Elm Street and Oak Avenue, the garden features 25 individual plots for residents to grow their own vegetables and flowers. More than 50 volunteers helped prepare the site over the past two months.

Mayor Anya Sharma cut the ribbon, calling the garden "a wonderful addition to our town." She stated, "This project cost the town council \$15,000, but the benefits to our community spirit are priceless." The garden aims to promote healthy eating and bring neighbors together.

Ms. Elena Rodriguez, the project manager for the Willow Creek Green Initiative, shared her excitement. "We believe this garden will be the best place for families to learn about sustainable living," she said. "Our goal is to have all 25 plots rented by the end of May." Currently, 18 plots have already been claimed by local families.

Local resident Mr. David Chen, who rented one of the plots, expressed his enthusiasm. "I think everyone should try gardening. It's the most relaxing hobby," he commented while planting tomato seedlings. "This garden will definitely make our neighborhood a better place."



Not everyone agrees. A few residents living near the garden expressed concerns about increased traffic and noise. Mrs. Susan Miller, whose house borders the new garden, said, "While the idea is nice, I worry it will attract too many people and create parking problems. The town should have considered a different location."



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- (1) "The garden features 25 individual plots for residents." Is this a **FACT** or **OPINION**? 🥕
 (A) Fact (B) Opinion

- (2) "This project cost the town council \$15,000." Is this a **FACT** or **OPINION**? 📄
 (A) Fact (B) Opinion

- (3) "This garden will be the best place for families to learn about sustainable living." Is this a **FACT** or **OPINION**? 🌱
 (A) Fact (B) Opinion

- (4) Explain in your own words why the statement "The town should have considered a different location" is an opinion. 📌

- (5) Find a statement in the article that **SOUNDS** like a fact but is actually an opinion. Explain your thinking. 🏠



