On a trip to town, Janet will stop at exactly six places–the florist, the grocery store, the hairstylist, the mechanic, the pharmacy and the savings & loan– before returning home. Janet stops at the places one at a time and does not stop at any place more than once. The order in which Janet makes the stops must conform to the following conditions:

Janet stops at the florist either first or third.

Janet stops at the savings & loan and then stops at exactly three places before stopping at the grocery store.

Janet stops at the mechanic after the florist but before the grocery store.

1. If Janet stops at the florist first, which one of the following could be true?

    A. Janet stops at the pharmacy second.
    B. Janet stops at the savings & loan third.
    C. Janet stops at the mechanic fourth.
    D. Janet stops at the grocery store fifth.
    E. Janet stops at the hairstylist sixth.

2. Which one of the following is a place where Janet could stop either third or sixth?

    A. the savings & loan
    B. the grocery store
    C. the hairstylist
    D. the mechanic
    E. the florist

3. If Janet stops at the pharmacy first, each of the following must be true EXCEPT

    A. Janet stops at the savings & loan second.
    B. Janet stops at the florist third.
    C. Janet stops at the grocery store sixth.
    D. Janet stops at the hairstylist before she stops at the grocery store.
    E. Janet stops at the mechanic before she stops at the hairstylist.

4. Which one of the following is a complete and accurate list of places Janet could stop at second?

    A. the hairstylist
    B. the savings & loan
    C. the savings & loan, the hairstylist, the pharmacy
    D. the hairstylist, the mechanic, the savings & loan
    E. the hairstylist, the mechanic, the pharmacy, the savings & loan

5. If Janet stops at the florist third, which one of the following CANNOT be true?

    A. Janet stops at the hairstylist immediately before the mechanic and sometime after the pharmacy.
    B. Janet stops at the hairstylist immediately before the grocery store and sometime after the pharmacy.
    C. Janet stops at the mechanic immediately before the grocery store and sometime after the hairstylist.
    D. Janet stops at the pharmacy immediately before the hairstylist and sometime after the mechanic.
    E. Janet stops at the mechanic immediately before the pharmacy and sometime after the hairstylist.

6. If Janet stops at the pharmacy immediately after she stops at the florist, she must stop at the hairstylist

    A. first
    B. second
    C. third
    D. fourth
    E. fifth

Game 30 – Janet's Trip to Town

1. C
2. C
3. E
4. C
5. D
6. A

Question 1 deals with inferences from all the rules–Janet must stop at the savings & loan second and the grocery store last based on rule 2 and the presence of the florist in spot 1. This excludes the four incorrect answers. Likewise, Question 2 is based on all three rules, which by their terms exclude the elements in answers A, B, D and E from spot 3 or spot 6.

On Question 3 you can deduce that the florist must be third, so the savings & loan is second and the grocery store is sixth. This gets you to answer E, since it is the only thing not deduced. Question 4 is a matter of deducing from a diagram or previous work, or trying out elements (for example, pharmacy) to eliminate answers.

For Question 5, there can only be one or two spaces between the florist and the grocery store–meaning that if the pharmacy and hairstylist are the stops, the mechanic must come earlier, in violation of the third rule.

On Question 6, if the pharmacy immediately follows the florist, then the mechanic must immediately follow the pharmacy and the grocery store must be sixth while the hairstylist is first.

This is a "tight" game and sometimes when there are only a few possible combinations it can be useful to plot them all out, for example, with the savings & loan being either first or second, the florist being only first or third.