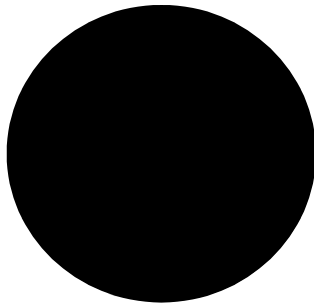


WHICH WAY DO I GO?

Directions: Look at the set of figures below and select the one that doesn't belong.

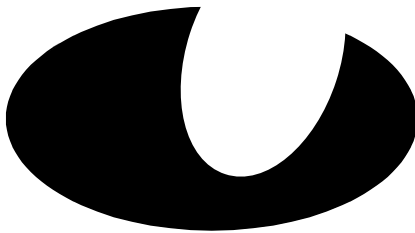
A)



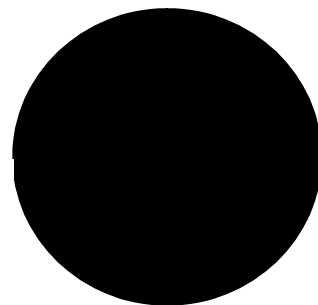
B)



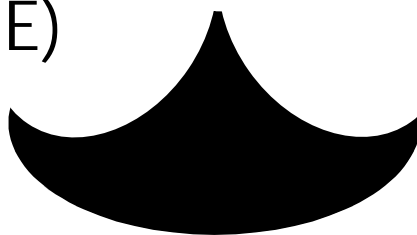
C)



D)



E)



This set of figures appeared in a book entitled *A Whack on the Side of the Head* by Roger von Oech. In that book, he gives the following response to the “test” you just took. “If you chose figure B, congratulations! You’ve picked the right answer. Figure B is the only one that has all straight lines. Give yourself a pat on the back! Some of you, however, may have chosen figure C, thinking that C is unique because it is the only one that is asymmetrical. And you are also right! C is the right answer. A case can also be made for figure A: it is the only one with no points of discontinuity. Therefore, A is the right answer. What about D? It is the only one with both a straight line and a curved line. So, D is the right answer, too. And E? Among other things, E is the only one which looks like a projection of a non-Euclidean triangle into Euclidean space. It is also the right answer. In other words, they are all right depending on your point of view. Much of our educational system, however, is geared toward teaching people the one right answer... the “right answer” approach becomes deeply ingrained in our thinking... if you think there is only one right answer, then you will stop looking as soon as you find one.”

von Oech, Roger. *A Whack on the Side of the Head*. New York: Warner Books, 1983