Activity 5. Looking at the World - Comparing Regions

A. What facts are presented on this graph?

1. Which two countries have higher percentages of children who die before reaching age 5?
2. Which two countries have higher annual population growth rates?
3. In which two countries can people expect to live a longer life?
4. In which two countries can a majority of people read and write?

B. What patterns can you identify from these facts?

There are four categories: Child mortality, population growth, life span and adult literacy. Based on this chart, which categories seem to go together in the world today?

C. In your opinion, which conclusion below best explains these patterns?

a) Population growth is very low in some countries because many children die while they are still young.

b) Countries that have a high population growth rate are very prosperous so people go to school longer and live longer.

c) In prosperous countries, the population grows slowly, more children live into adulthood, people go to school longer, and people live longer.
d) There is no connection between the facts from this graph. Any pattern that appears is an accident.

D. What questions do you have about these facts, patterns, and conclusions?