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Weekly Test Lesson 7

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Making Cheese

Cheese is one of Americans' favorite foods. We find cheese on pizza, hamburgers, tacos, sandwiches, burritos, nachos, crackers, and many more popular food items. Cheese is even eaten all by itself as string cheese or small cubes. While many people eat cheese, very few people know exactly how it is made.

No matter what kind of cheese or how it is used, all cheese starts out with the same ingredient—milk. Many cheese factories get their milk from family farms or other farms nearby. The milk must be fresh because old milk does not make good cheese. Then the milk is tested for quality. Anything that does not belong in the milk is taken out. After that, the milk is pasteurized. Pasteurizing means heating the milk to a high temperature and then cooling it back down. This process takes out any bad bacteria. Now, the milk is ready to be made into cheese. It takes just over a gallon of whole milk to make a one-pound block of cheddar cheese. This means cheese factories need a lot of milk.

Next, good bacteria is added to the milk. This bacteria helps to make the cheese flavor. After the good bacteria grows, the milk needs a coagulant. The coagulant used to make the cheese is called a rennet. Once the rennet is added, the milk thickens and separates into curds, a solid, and whey, a liquid.

The curds are the beginnings of cheese. The curds are cut. Next, both the curds and whey are cooked. Then the curds are taken out of the whey. After that, salt is added. The salt gives flavor. It also helps the cheese last longer. Finally, the curds are pressed into blocks or round forms.

Up until this point, all block cheese is made pretty much the same. After this step, some cheese has flavors added. Spices, herbs, vegetables, and bacon are just a few of the flavors. Some cheese is stretched. Some cheese even has color added. All cheese is naturally white, but some cheese has yellow food coloring added to it. Adding food coloring is rather silly since it does not change the flavor. After adding these things, the cheese ages in a temperature-controlled warehouse. This aging gives the cheese better flavor.

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Reading

Finally, the cheese is cut into smaller blocks, or shredded, cubed, or otherwise cut to be ready to ship to stores. Once the cheese reaches the stores, it is ready to be eaten as a snack. You can also use it to make your favorite recipe. If you make your favorite cheese-filled food, take a photograph. But you better take the picture quickly because it tastes even better!

- 1 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

What is the author's opinion about Americans and cheese?

- Ⓐ Americans know a lot about cheese.
- Ⓑ Americans prefer yellow cheese.
- Ⓒ Americans do not enjoy cheese.
- Ⓓ Americans love to eat cheese.

Part B

How does the author support the opinion in part A?

- Ⓐ The author writes about how cheese is made.
- Ⓑ The author lists all the places people eat cheese.
- Ⓒ The author writes about the many different types of cheese.
- Ⓓ The author lists many favorite foods that have cheese in them.

- 2 What is rennet?

- Ⓐ a coagulant that thickens milk
- Ⓑ a bacteria that grows in milk
- Ⓒ a flavoring added to cheese
- Ⓓ a bowl of curds and whey

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- 3 Mark the boxes to show the main concept of each paragraph.

	Paragraph 2	Paragraph 3	Paragraph 4
All cheese starts with milk.			
Curds are the first sign of cheese.			
Milk needs bacteria for flavor and coagulants to thicken.			

- 4 Why does the author think that adding food coloring to cheese is silly?

- (A) because it is a waste of money
 (B) because white cheese looks better
 (C) because it takes too much time to do
 (D) because it does not change the flavor of the cheese

- 5 Read the sentences from the passage.

You can also use it to make your favorite recipe. If you make your favorite cheese-filled food, take a photograph. But you better take the picture quickly because it tastes even better!

What does the word photograph mean?

- (A) a sound from far away
 (B) a recorded image
 (C) a type of light
 (D) a drawing

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- 6 What is the main idea of the passage? Use evidence from the passage to support your answer.

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Writing

- 7 Which sentence has a spelling error?
- (A) Would you like some supe?
 - (B) Will you hand me the tool?
 - (C) Did you see this raccoon?
 - (D) Is my roof leaking?
- 8 Which sentence has an error in grammar usage?
- (A) The boys practiced hard for their game.
 - (B) Monique will paid five dollars for her hat.
 - (C) Michael will run in a track meet this weekend.
 - (D) The girls on the basketball team have sold 20 coupon books.
- 9 Which sentence is written correctly?
- (A) I compete in a swim meet at the high school pool next weekend.
 - (B) I will compete in a swim meet at the high school pool next weekend.
 - (C) I was competing in a swim meet at the high school pool next weekend.
 - (D) I would have competed in a swim meet at the high school pool next weekend.
- 10 Read the paragraph. Then, underline the **two** sentences that contain errors.

Carla is selling cookies for her Girl Scout troop. She sells 10 boxes of cookies last weekend. In the last two weeks, Carla has sold 25 boxes. Her goal is to sell 100 boxes of cookies total. If she does, Carla sold 25 more boxes of cookies this year than she sold last year.