

• Reading Comprehension 7 Level 3

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

Passage

Some people think you need a kitchen to cook dinner. But you can make easy, delicious meals outside over a campfire.

One easy campfire meal is a baked potato. You wrap the potato in tin foil and put it under the flames in the hot ashes. After an hour, the heat from the fire will cook the potato. Open up the tin foil **package** and you have a baked potato!

It is also easy to roast food over a campfire. You can put hot dogs or sausages on sticks and hold them in the fire. The flames will cook the meat. For dessert, you can roast marshmallows on sticks. Hold them near the fire until they turn golden and begin to melt. But do not leave anything in the fire too long, or it will turn completely black and taste like ashes.

There are many nice things about campfire meals. To make these meals, you do not even need to know anything about cooking. Some people also say that food tastes better when cooked and eaten outside. But the best part of these campfire meals is there are no dishes to wash afterwards.

Questions

- 1) As used in paragraph 2, which is an example of a **package**?
 - A. French fries are served on a tray in the cafeteria.
 - B. A new toy comes wrapped up in a plastic box.
 - C. Cookies are easy to remove when there is tin foil on the cookie sheet.
 - D. You can use a knife to cut open an orange instead of peeling it.

- 2) The author warns that if you leave anything in the fire too long, it
 - A. can get burned
 - B. can be dangerous
 - C. will melt
 - D. will fall off the stick

3) Which sentence from the passage best describes why campfire meals are easy to make?

- A. "But you can make easy, delicious meals outside over a campfire."
- B. "You wrap the potato in tin foil and put it under the flames in the hot ashes."
- C. "It is also easy to roast food over a campfire."
- D. "To make these meals, you do not even need to know anything about cooking."

4) After reading the passage, we can conclude that

- A. you do not need much to cook a campfire meal
- B. cooking over a campfire is more fun than in a kitchen
- C. roasting food on a stick or wrapping it in tin foil is the only way to cook a campfire meal
- D. if you do not cook in a kitchen, you do not have any dishes to wash

5) According to the author, the best part of these campfire meals is that they

- A. are easy
- B. are delicious
- C. taste better outside
- D. use no dishes

Answers and Explanations

1) **B**

package (*noun*): an object or group of objects wrapped up or packed in a box.

In paragraph 2, the author writes, "Open up the tin foil package and you have a baked potato!" To understand what makes this a package, though, we need to read the previous sentences in the paragraph. The author tells us that to make the baked potato, "you wrap the potato in tin foil and put it under the flames in the hot ashes." From this, we know that the tin foil package is a potato wrapped up in tin foil. This tells us that a package is something wrapped up that you can open. A new toy that comes wrapped up in a plastic box is also something wrapped up that you can open. This means it is an example of a *package*. Therefore **(B)** is correct. The baked potato is in a package because it is wrapped up in tin foil and can be opened. The fact that it is a potato does not make it a package. This means that French fries served on a tray in the cafeteria are not an example of a package, because they are not wrapped up and cannot be opened. This eliminates **(A)**. The tin foil package is made by wrapping tin foil around the potato so you can open it up. The tin foil by itself does not make it a package. So cookies that are easy to remove because there is tin foil on the cookie sheet are not an example of a package. The tin foil is laid underneath the cookies. It does not wrap them up. This makes **(C)** incorrect. Using a knife to cut open an orange instead of peeling it is not an example of a package, because the orange is not wrapped up in anything. The peel comes on it naturally. A potato also has a peel, but the baked potato package is made by wrapping the tin foil around the peel. There is nothing wrapped around the orange peel in this example. This means **(D)** is incorrect.

2) **A**

In paragraph 3, the author writes, "But do not leave anything in the fire too long, or it will turn completely black and taste like ashes." This tells us that if you leave anything in the fire too long, it will become completely black and taste like ashes. Since turning black and tasting like ashes is what happens to food when it gets burned, the author warns that if you leave anything in the fire too long, it can get burned. Therefore **(A)** is correct. It is possible that if you leave anything in the fire too long, it can be dangerous, or the food will melt, or the food will fall off the stick. But the author does not suggest any of these things will happen. He or she only suggests that it can get burned. Therefore choices **(B)**, **(C)**, and **(D)** are incorrect.

3) **D**

In the passage, the author describes easy meals to make over a campfire. In the final paragraph, the author writes, "To make these meals, you do not even need to know anything about cooking." This tells us that campfire meals are easy to make because you do not even need to know how to cook in order to make them. You do not need a recipe or a cookbook. They have very simple instructions that anyone can follow, even without knowing much about cooking. This means that the sentence "To make these meals, you do not even need to know anything about cooking" best describes why these campfire meals are easy to make. Therefore **(D)** is correct. The sentence "But you can make easy, delicious meals outside over a campfire" tells us that these meals are easy to make. But it does not describe why they are easy to make. This eliminates **(A)**. The sentence "You wrap the potato in tin foil and put it under the flames in the hot ashes" explains how to make an easy meal. But it does not describe why it is easy to make. This means **(B)** is incorrect. The sentence "It is also easy to roast food over a campfire" tells us that roasting food is an easy meal. But it does not describe why it is easy to make. Therefore **(C)** is incorrect.

4) **A**

In the passage, the author describes some easy meals to cook over a campfire. Then the author describes two meals. In paragraph 2, the author says, "You wrap the potato in tin foil and put it under the flames in the hot ashes." This is how you cook a baked potato. All you need is the potato, tin foil, and the fire. In paragraph 3, the author says, "It is also easy to roast food over a campfire. You can put hot dogs or sausages on sticks and hold them in the fire." For this meal all you need is the food, the sticks, and the fire. For each of these meals, you only need three things. This means that after reading the passage, we can conclude that you do not need much to cook a campfire meal. Therefore **(A)** is correct. Although in paragraph 1, the author tells us that cooking meals over a campfire can be "easy" and "delicious," he or she does not suggest that cooking over a campfire is more fun than cooking in a kitchen. It may be true, but the passage does not provide this information. This means **(B)** is incorrect. The author describes two campfire meals. For the first meal, you wrap food in tin foil. For the second meal, you roast food on a stick. However, the author does not say that these are the only meals you can cook over a campfire. We cannot conclude from the passage that roasting food on a stick or wrapping it in tin foil is the only way to cook a campfire meal. This makes **(C)** incorrect. In the final paragraph, the author writes, "But the best part of these campfire meals is there are no dishes to wash afterwards." This means that for these meals, you do not have any dishes to wash. But we cannot conclude that it is always true that if you do not cook in a kitchen, you do not have any dishes to wash. Therefore **(D)** is incorrect.

5) **D**

To answer this detail question correctly, we need to find where the author discusses the best part of these meals in the passage. A good way to do this is to scan the topic sentence of each paragraph, since this sentence will likely tell us what information can be found in the rest of that paragraph. The topic sentence of the final paragraph reads: "There are many nice things about campfire meals." This lets us know that the details we are looking for can likely be found in the final paragraph. In the final paragraph, the author writes, "But the best part of these campfire meals is there are no dishes to wash afterwards." This tells us that, according to the author, the best part of these campfire meals is that they use no dishes. Therefore **(D)** is correct. Although in paragraph 1, the author writes that "you can make easy, delicious meals outside over a campfire," he or she does not say that the best part of these campfire meals is that they are easy or delicious. This eliminates **(A)** and **(B)**. In the final paragraph, the author writes, "Some people also say that food tastes better when cooked and eaten outside." But he or she does not say that this is the "best part" of these campfire meals. This means **(C)** is incorrect.