

Test Your Reading Skills

How sharp are your reading skills? Here's an exercise to test them. In 90 seconds or less, read the following material and circle T or F for each statement (**without looking back at the article**). Set a timer or have someone call time in exactly 90 seconds. Stop when time is over, finished or not.

DRY ICE

Can you imagine ice that does not melt and is not wet? Then you can imagine dry ice. Dry ice is made by freezing a gas called carbon dioxide. Dry ice is quite different from ordinary ice, which is simply frozen water.

Dry ice was first manufactured in 1925. It has since fulfilled the fondest hopes of its inventor. It can be used to make artificial fog in movies (when steam is passed over dry ice, a very dense vapor rise), and for destroying insects in grain supplies. It is more practical than ordinary ice because it takes up less space and is 142 degrees colder. Since it evaporates instead of melting, it is cleaner to use. For these reasons it is extremely popular, and many people prefer it to ordinary ice.

Dry is so cold that, if you touch it with your bare fingers, it will burn you!

Respond

1. Dry ice is made from water, but because it is specially treated it does not melt. T F
2. The first dry ice was manufactured in the 1950s. T F
3. Dry ice has more uses than ordinary ice. T F
4. Dry ice is not as cold as ordinary ice. T F
5. Artificial fog can be made by passing steam over dry ice. T F

Did you make it in 90 seconds? Feel no anxiety if you did not - you are at the start of your practice in reading quickly and responding accurately. Your aim is to improve gradually and surely, not to become an expert at once.