Unit 2: Exercise 7

In the IELTS Reading test, as well as identifying the writer's opinion, you may be asked to summarise a writer's argument in a paragraph. In order to do this, you need to read the whole paragraph carefully.

Read the paragraph and answer the question. Choose the correct letter, A, B, C or D.

Of course, when the right technology came along, ice cream became something that could be easily produced. It was in the USA, in the mid-1800s, that the first small freezers appeared. These were quite primitive compared to today's machines, and were powered by steam. Around this time, the first ice cream factory was set up in Pennsylvania, in the USA. From there, ice cream was transported by train to different cities in the region. This was, essentially, the beginning of the ice-cream industry. However, it was not until the beginning of the 20th century that ice cream became a successful commercial product. By this time, much cheaper methods of refrigeration had been developed, meaning that the technology to create ice cream could be adopted in different countries around the world, and affordable products became available to millions of ordinary people.

Which of the following statements best summarises the writer's main point in this paragraph?

- ◯ **A** Ice cream became a popular product in the mid-1800s.
- ◯ **B** Ice cream became a popular product when the cost of making it became cheaper.
- ◯ **C** Early technology for creating ice cream was not successful.
- ◯ **D** Ice cream first became a popular product in the USA.

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