

**Long ago & today**

Today, we can buy candles with different shapes, colors, sizes, and even smells, although we no longer need to use candles as a main source of light. Years ago, people worked hard to light their cabins, and they didn't worry about how candles looked or smelled. Making candles was a dirty job that took hours, so people were happy to have any kind of candle.

Many years ago, people made candles from the fat of the animals they killed for food. They melted the fat, boiled it in water and then cooled it. Some people added spices to the hot fat so that it would not smell bad.

Dipping was an easy way to make candles. String was dipped into the hot fat, taken out, and then cooled. The string was dipped and cooled many times, each time adding another layer of fat.

Some people used molds that looked like tall metal boxes with holes at the top. Strings were put into the holes, and hot fat was poured in. The candles were cooled and then taken out. Molds were not as messy as dipping, and one person could make many candles at once.

Making candles was hard work, but having light was worth the effort.

melt: nấu chảy

spices: hương liệu

dip: nhúng

mold: khuôn

I. Read. Circle the correct answer A, B, C or D.**1. What is the reading text about?**

- A. types of candles
- B. candles long ago and today
- C. the making of candles
- D. a hard work

2. Which sentence is TRUE?

- A. There were many kinds of candles long ago.
- B. Candles were once a main source of light.
- C. It was fast to make candles.
- D. Making candles was very clean.

3. What did people use to make candles?

- A. animal fat
- B. vegetable oil
- C. spices
- D. water

4. What is NOT true about molding?

- A. It was clean to make candles.
- B. People used tall metal boxes as molds.
- C. People put strings through the holes.
- D. It was more difficult to make candles.

II. Read again. Write True (T) or False (F).

- 1. People used to buy candles with different shapes and colors.
- 2. Making candles was a fast and easy job.
- 3. People used to make candles from the fat of the animals.
- 4. Dipping wasn't an easy way to make candles.
- 5. One person could make many candles at once.
- 6. Making candles was hard work.