Reading 2

Skills:

- Details

- Paraphrase

Getting started: How often do you eat meat?

LAB-GROWN MEAT

Discover how scientists can create burgers without harming cows.

Global demand for meat is expected to increase by more than two-thirds in the next 40 years, and we are already struggling to deal with this situation. Current methods for producing meat are not very sustainable, as huge amounts of land and other resources are needed to keep livestock. Considering this situation, the price of meat will continue to rise, meaning that it could soon become an unaffordable luxury. The meat industry is also having a negative environmental impact on the planet, with the animals releasing huge amounts of methane, a greenhouse gas that contributes to global

warming. Many scientists believe the solution to this imminent problem is to change our dietary habits and consider eating meat grown in the lab.

In fact, a team from Maastricht University in the Netherlands has already perfected the technique. By extracting stem cells from a living cow, they were able to grow muscle tissue and turn it into a burger that tastes a lot like the real thing. The cells taken from just one cow could produce 175 million burgers, which would normally require meat from 440,000 cows; better still, the animal remains unharmed.

It's not just beef that can be grown this way either, as the method can easily be replicated to create chicken, pork and other meats, too. Before you start planning your lab-grown barbecue though, scientists believe it could take another ten to twenty years before the meat becomes commercially available. Currently, it costs a lot to produce a single burger, but as the method is refined, this kind of meat could become cheaper than the conventional kind grown on farms.

**Adapted from How it Works – World of Tomorrow. Fifth Edition. DK Publishing.*

Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing implies expressing the meaning of something written or spoken, using different words, especially to achieve greater clarity. Paraphrasing is important because it shows you understand the written source (a text) well enough to write it in your own words.

Paraphrasing exercise

Read the sentences taken from the text. Then, express the same idea by completing the second sentence with just **ONE** word.

E.g. Discover how scientists can create burgers without harming cows.

Discover how scientists can create burgers without cows being **harmed**.

1. Global demand for meat is expected to increase by more than two-thirds in the next 40 years.

It is expected that global demand for meat _____ increase by more than two-thirds in the next 40 years.

2. Huge amounts of land and other resources are needed to keep livestock.

It is _____ to have huge amounts of land and other resources to keep livestock.

3. The price of meat will continue to rise.

The price of meat will _____ on rising.

4. Meat could soon become an unaffordable luxury.

Soon we won't be able to _____ to eat meat.

5. The solution to this imminent problem is to change our dietary habits.

We _____ change our dietary habits to _____ this problem.

6. In fact, a team from Maastricht University has already perfected the technique.

_____, a team from Maastricht University has already perfected the technique.

7. They were able to grow muscle tissue and turn it into a burger.

They _____ grow muscle tissue and turn it into a burger.

8. The method can easily be replicated to create chicken, pork and other meats, too.

The method can easily be replicated to create chicken, pork and other meats _____ well.

9. Before you start planning your lab-grown barbecue though, scientists believe it could take another ten to twenty years before the meat becomes commercially available.

_____, before you start planning your lab-grown barbecue, scientists believe it could take another ten to twenty years before the meat becomes commercially available.

10. This kind of meat could become cheaper.

This kind of meat won't be that _____.

What do you think?

Would you like to try this kind of lab meat? Why (not)?