

Reading Comprehension 1 Questions

THE GLASSBLOWER

Glassblowing takes a lot of skill. Once you've read this information about how it is done, number the statements in the correct order.



First of all, a pot of solid glass is placed inside the furnace. Then it is lit. It has to be very hot inside before the glass melts.

Once the glass is soft enough to be shaped, the glassblower picks up his blowpipe. This is made of iron or steel.

He or she then pushes the blowpipe into the furnace and brings out a molten lump of glass. Immediately, this heats up the whole blowpipe. So the end that is blown into has to be cooled down by dipping it into cold water.

- ☐ The glassblower picks up his blowpipe.
- ☐ The glass melts.
- ☐ The furnace is lit.
- ☐ One end of the blowpipe is cooled down in water.
- ☐ The glassblower brings a lump of glass out of the furnace.

GLASSBLOWING – the next stage

Read what happens next and number the stages in the correct order.

The glassblower starts to blow through the pipe to create a bubble of glass at the other end. Its size depends on how much the glassblower blows.

All the while, the glass is turned round and round.

The glassblower will also use a flat surface to roll and shape the hot glass. There are other hand-tools that are used at this stage: flat paddles and large tweezers.

At this point, the glass is likely to cool down and must be reheated inside another small furnace. The glassblower will then continue turning and shaping the glass.

When the glassblower is happy that the final shape has been reached, it is allowed to cool down slowly.

Finally, the solid glass is cut from the blowpipe, polished and decorated.



- ☐ The glass is polished and decorated.
 - ☐ The glassblower rolls and shapes the molten glass on a flat surface.
 - ☐ If the glass cools down too soon, it has to be re-heated.
 - ☐ The glassblower blows through the pipe to create a glass bubble.
 - ☐ The glass is allowed to cool down slowly.
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- 3** The glassblower picks up his blowpipe.
- 2** The glass melts.
- 1** The furnace is lit.
- 5** One end of the blowpipe is cooled down in water.
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