

(B-2)

(12 marks)

John is reading an article about pasta. Read it carefully, choose the best answers for Questions 23-27 and complete Question 28.

## Pasta



Pasta is one of the most commonly eaten foods in the world. Some people think that Italians invented pasta, while some think that pasta is a kind of Asian noodles. However, it is still widely believed that Marco Polo brought the idea of pasta to Italy from China in the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Thousands of years ago, noodles were common in Asia. Asians mainly used rice to make flour for their noodles. When Italians knew about noodles, they tried to make flour from wheat. Soon, it became the pasta we know today. Because of its low price, pasta became one of the main foods for people in Italy. The climate of Italy is suitable for growing vegetables and herbs. So, Italians tried to make different pasta sauces. To this day, sauces made with tomatoes are still the most popular pasta sauces.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Europeans brought pasta to America. Pasta was special to Thomas Jefferson, who was one of the founders of America. After trying pasta, he ate it every day during his stay in France. When he returned to America, he brought along two cases of pasta. Ever since then, the food became more and more popular in America. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, many Italians moved to America. Then, pasta became a common food there too.

Today, you can easily enjoy pasta at different restaurants, not just western restaurants. They serve pasta that comes in many forms, such as strings, tubes and strips. Some even look like wheels and butterflies! Now, do you see how popular pasta is?

Which kind of pasta do you like most?