

## A rare cheese

Are you adventurous when it comes to food? Watch this video about a famous Italian food – would you be brave enough to try it?

### Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

#### Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

##### Vocabulary

1. ..... a delicacy
2. ..... to consume
3. ..... not for the faint of heart
4. ..... to be infested with
5. ..... a maggot
6. ..... off-putting
7. ..... distinctive
8. ..... texture

##### Definition

- a. not suitable for people who are easily frightened or shocked
- b. a rare or expensive type of food
- c. to eat or drink
- d. a worm that will become a fly
- e. to have a lot of (negative)
- f. the way a food feels in your mouth
- g. unpleasant and unattractive
- h. easy to recognise because of being different

#### Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	<b>Answer</b>	
1. People in Sardinia have been eating <i>casu marzu</i> for a long time.	True	False
2. The name <i>casu marzu</i> literally means 'dangerous cheese'.	True	False
3. Farmers add extra milk to pecorino cheese to make <i>casu marzu</i> .	True	False
4. It takes around three months for the cheese to be infested with flies and fly larvae.	True	False
5. The cheese passes through the body of the maggots.	True	False
6. It is common for people who eat <i>casu marzu</i> to have maggots living inside their body.	True	False
7. You can buy the cheese all over Europe.	True	False
8. At least three generations of the Ibba family have been making <i>casu marzu</i> .	True	False

**Task 2**

Write a number (1–7) to put the events in the order they are mentioned.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The cheese is excreted by the maggots, transforming it into soft and creamy *casu marzu*.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cheese flies are allowed to lay eggs in the cheese.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Milk is produced by Ibba's flock of sheep.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The cheese is eaten by the maggots.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A traditional wheel of pecorino cheese is made.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Finally, the cheese is eaten at special occasions such as weddings or birthday parties
- \_\_\_\_\_ After about 40 days, the cheese is infested with cheese flies and their larvae (maggots).

**Discussion**

Are there any foods from your country that are unusual?

## Answers

### Preparation task

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. e
5. d
6. g
7. h
8. f

### Task 1

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. False
7. False
8. True

### Task 2

1. Milk is produced by Ibba's flock of sheep.
2. A traditional wheel of pecorino cheese is made.
3. Cheese flies are allowed to lay eggs in the cheese.
4. After about 40 days, the cheese is infested with cheese flies and their larvae (maggots).
5. The cheese is eaten by the maggots.
6. The cheese is excreted by the maggots, transforming it into soft and creamy *casu marzu*.
7. Finally, the cheese is eaten at special occasions such as weddings or birthday parties.