Exercise 1 Answer Key

We identified 129 facts in the passage. The exact number may vary depending on how you break up certain phrases. See footnotes for details.

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The smell\(^1\) feels illicit\(^2\) even though it's not\(^3\): a pleasant blend of pine, cedar, and skunk.\(^4\) It hangs in the air\(^5\) of a refurbished brick warehouse\(^6\) in downtown Spokane\(^7\), permeating each\(^8\) drafty room.\(^9\) One of the only residents\(^10\) on this early January evening\(^11\) is ODO Oil,\(^12\) a company that processes cannabis oil,\(^13\) but there are big dreams of a sprawling cannabis business district\(^14\) with recreational shops\(^15\) and kitchens baking pot-infused treats.\(^16\) Upstairs,\(^17\) 60\(^18\) rundown\(^19\) hotel rooms\(^20\) may eventually be converted to pot-friendly condos.\(^21\) For now, the main floor\(^22\) is

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1 “Smell”: Confirm with sources present that there was a smell.
2 “feels illicit”: Confirm that cannabis, and by extension the smell that indicates its presence, is illegal in most cases in the U.S., where this story takes place.
3 “even though it’s not”: Confirm cannabis is legal in Washington State.
4 “a pleasant blend of pine, cedar, and skunk”: While this is subjective, a fact-checker could still ask sources present whether the description is apt.
5 “It hangs in the air”: Confirm with sources present that the building smelled consistently like cannabis.
6 “refurbished brick warehouse”: Confirm description of building.
7 “in downtown Spokane”: Confirm the building’s location.
8 “permeating each”: Confirm with sources present that the smell occurred throughout the building.
9 “drafty room”: Confirm with sources present that the rooms felt drafty.
10 “One of the only residents”: Confirm the number of business residents in the building, and that ODO Oil is one of them.
11 “on this early January evening”: Confirm date and time with sources present.
12 “ODO Oil”: Confirm name and spelling.
13 “a company that processes cannabis oil”: Confirm company’s products.
14 “but there are big dreams of a sprawling cannabis business district”: Confirm plans of business district with developers/owners.
15 “recreational shops”: Confirm as part of proposed business district.
16 “kitchens baking pot-infused treats”: Confirm as part of the proposed business district.
17 “Upstairs”: Confirm the hotel rooms are located upstairs.
18 “60”: Confirm number of hotel rooms.
19 “rundown”: While this is subjective, confirm that it is fair to describe the rooms’ appearance this way.
20 “hotel rooms”: Confirm the rooms are, indeed, hotel rooms.
21 “may eventually be converted to pot-friendly condos”: Confirm as part of the business district plan.
22 “main floor”: Confirm sources were on the building’s main floor in the described scene.

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mostly empty, \textsuperscript{23} save for a few \textsuperscript{24} televisions \textsuperscript{25} in the storefront windows \textsuperscript{26} broadcasting a CNN rerun about cannabis \textsuperscript{27} onto the snowy, \textsuperscript{28} empty streets \textsuperscript{29} outside. \textsuperscript{30}

I’m visiting ODO \textsuperscript{31} with Alan Schreiber \textsuperscript{32} a scientist \textsuperscript{33} who plans to do business here. \textsuperscript{34} The company’s lab director, \textsuperscript{35} Steve Lee, \textsuperscript{36} is telling us \textsuperscript{37} about the history of the building, \textsuperscript{38} but Schreiber promptly interrupts. \textsuperscript{39} “I want to see my product. I just want to talk about what’s going on,” he says. \textsuperscript{40}

“Absolutely,” Lee says. \textsuperscript{41} He guides us \textsuperscript{42} downstairs \textsuperscript{43} to the main processing room. \textsuperscript{44} It’s loud \textsuperscript{45} and hot \textsuperscript{46} and filled \textsuperscript{47} with $1-million-worth \textsuperscript{48} of extraction machines, \textsuperscript{49} which wrest \textsuperscript{50} the oil \textsuperscript{51} from \textsuperscript{52} dried, \textsuperscript{53} ground \textsuperscript{54} cannabis plants. \textsuperscript{55} The extraction \textsuperscript{56}
concentrates that give pot its oomph — dozens of chemicals called cannabinoids, which include tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the main psychoactive ingredient. A guy in Tyvek coveralls and protective gloves pulls a lever to spritz a first-run of raw oil into a clear plastic cup. If we’re being charitable, the oil looks like melting caramel gelato; if not, it’d easily be mistaken for the contents of a baby’s diaper.

We make our way to a secondary processing room, quieter and cooler, where the oil is filtered and spun until it has the deep viscous clarity of

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53 “dried”: Confirm description of material.
54 “ground”: Confirm description of material.
55 “cannabis plants”: Confirm the material the machines are extracting from.
56 “extraction”: Confirm action.
57 “concentrates”: Confirm action.
58 “compounds”: Confirm the extracted materials can be called “compounds.”
59 “give pot its oomph”: Confirm these particular compounds are the active ingredients in cannabis and that “oomph” is an appropriate way to describe them.
60 “dozens”: Confirm number of compounds.
61 “chemicals”: Confirm synonym for “compounds” in this context.
62 “called cannabinoids”: Confirm name and spelling.
63 “include”: Confirm the following specific compounds/chemicals are examples of the previously-stated “dozens.”
64 “tetrahydrocannabinol”: Confirm name and spelling.
65 “THC”: Confirm nickname and spelling.
66 “main”: Confirm there are no other psychoactive compounds that could be considered more prominent.
67 “psychoactive”: Confirm THC is psychoactive.
68 “ingredient”: Confirm as synonym for compound/chemical.
69 “guy”: Confirm gender.
70 “Tyvek”: Confirm attire material.
71 “coveralls”: Confirm attire style.
72 “protective”: Confirm gloves were indeed intended for protection.
73 “gloves”: Confirm the person wore gloves.
74 “pulls”: Confirm direction of action.
75 “lever”: Confirm description of item the person pulled.
76 “spritz”: Confirm that the material came out in a spritz/spray and not in some other fashion (for example, a trickle or gush).
77 “first-run”: Confirm this was the first processing stage.
78 “raw oil”: Confirm the oil should be called “raw” at this processing stage.
79 “clear”: Confirm color.
80 “plastic”: Confirm material.
81 “cup”: Confirm container type.
82 “the oil looks like melting caramel gelato”: Confirm description of raw oil.
83 “easily be mistaken for the contents of a baby’s diaper”: Confirm description.
84 “We make our way”: Confirm the same group moved through the building.
85 “to a secondary processing room”: Confirm this was the next stop on the tour.
buckwheat honey. Lee holds up a Mason jar of the stuff estimated at $18,000 wholesale. He explains that in order to land on store shelves as inhalable cartridges or as an ingredient in cookies, candy or other edible goods, the oil must go through state-mandated safety and quality tests from a third-party lab to assure that it’s free of contaminants such as

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86 “quieter”: Confirm noise level in relation to previous room.
87 “cooler”: Confirm temperature in relation to previous room.
88 “oil”: Confirm material processed in second room.
89 “filtered”: Confirm this action takes place in the secondary processing room.
90 “spun”: Confirm this action takes place in the room, after the filtration.
91 “until”: Confirm the duration of the filtering and spinning.
92 “deep”: Confirm the depth/darkness of the oil’s color.
93 “viscous”: Confirm the oil’s consistency.
94 “clarity”: Confirm how transparent/opaque the oil appears.
95 “buckwheat honey”: Confirm the filtered/spun oil resembles buckwheat honey in color, consistency and clarity.
96 “Lee holds”: Confirm Lee was the one who held the oil.
97 “up”: Confirm the direction/placement at which he held the oil.
98 “Mason jar”: Confirm the container type.
99 “the stuff”: Confirm the Mason jar indeed contained the filtered/spun oil.
100 “estimated at $18,000 wholesale”: Confirm value of oil in Mason jar.
101 “He explains”: Confirm it was Lee who gave the following context.
102 “in order to land on store shelves”: Confirm Lee was talking about the oil as a commercial product.
103 “inhalable cartridges”: Confirm example of a commercial product that could include the cannabis oil from ODO.
104 “ingredient in cookies”: Confirm example of a commercial product that could include the cannabis oil from ODO.
105 “candy”: Confirm example of a commercial product that could include the cannabis oil from ODO.
106 “or other edible goods”: Confirm example of a commercial product that could include the cannabis oil from ODO.
107 “the oil must go through”: Confirm it is the oil, and not the whole product, that must go through the testing.
108 “state-mandated”: Confirm the testing is required by state law specifically.
109 “safety”: Confirm the category of state-mandated testing.
110 “quality tests”: Confirm the category of state-mandated testing.
111 “from a third-party lab”: Confirm who/what does the state-mandated testing.
112 “assure that it’s free of contaminants”: Confirm the purpose of the testing.
bacteria, mold and remaining solvents. The labs also determine the potency.

Schreiber, a former academic entomologist and pesticide toxicologist who is now essentially a hired gun in agricultural pest control, then turns to me. “I’m going to make a statement, and he’s going to agree with it or not agree with it, or maybe counter it,” he says, nodding at Lee. “He doesn’t have to test that for pesticide residues.”

Lee agrees. “Currently in Washington State there is no mandate that we have to test for pesticides,” he says.