

- Cherries are stone fruits, related to plums and more distantly to peaches and nectarines.
- ⇒They have been enjoyed since the Stone Age—pits were found in several Stone Age caves in Europe.
- ⇒Cherries are grown in several regions of this country, but 70% of the cherries produced in the United States come from four states—Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Utah.
- ⇒There are two main types of cherries: sweet and sour.
 - Sour cherries are mostly canned or frozen for use as pie filling or sauce.
 - Sweet cherries include Bing—the best known sweet cherry; Lambert—second most popular sweet cherry, smaller than Bings and more heart shaped; Rainer sweet with a yellow or pinkish skin, milder and sweeter than the Bing; Royal Ann—blush-yellow skin and often canned or made into maraschino cherries.
- ⇒ Japan gave the US 3020 cherry blossom trees in 1912, as a gift of their growing friendship. These trees were planted in Manhattan in Sakura Park.
- ⇒Once upon a time, serving ice cream on cherry pie in Kansas was prohibited.
- ⇒Canada holds the record for baking the biggest cherry pie in the world—it weighed 39,683 pounds!