

For questions 1-8, read the text and think of the word that best fits each gap.

Use only one word in each gap. There is an example: (0) MAY/MIGHT

The early history of the onion

Although the onion (0) _____ not be everyone's favourite vegetable, it certainly has many uses and a very long history. It can be fried, boiled, grilled, baked or eaten raw, it adds flavour (1) _____ many kinds of food, and is an essential ingredient of dishes ranging (2) _____ expensive restaurant meals to the simplest burger or hot dog.

The Chinese grew onions 5,000 years ago, and there is some evidence that the Egyptians (3) _____ done so 500 years before then. In ancient times some people believed that the structure of the onion, (4) _____ is formed by circles within circles, represented the idea of living forever. That is probably (5) _____ it appears in so many wall paintings of the time.

In India 2,500 years ago, the onion was considered a medicine that was good (6) _____ the stomach, heart and eyes, while in Ancient Greece athletes (7) _____ sometimes eat onion to build up their strength before they (8) _____ part in a race or other competition.

