

# Food Firsts



**H**ow much do you know about the history of some of your favorite foods? Do you know when people in England started cooking curry dishes? Do you know in which country pizzas or hamburgers were first made? The facts might surprise you.

5 Many people think the English found out about curry from people in India in the 1600s. In reality, **wealthy** English people were eating dishes made with curry **spices** hundreds of years before British ships traveled to India. Cooks of wealthy English families during the time of King Richard I were making curry dishes, and in fact, the word “curry” can be found in an English **language** cookbook as far back as  
10 1377.

As for pizza, this **dish** was probably first made in Persia (what is now Iran). The Persians were eating round, flat bread with cheese in the 500s. That was nearly 1,000 years before pizza caught on in Naples, Italy!

Finally, let’s look at the **truth** behind hamburgers. Many people think  
15 hamburgers are an American food. However, according to some stories, hamburgers came from Hamburg, Germany. A German named Otto Kuasw created the first hamburger in 1891. Four years later, German **sailors** introduced hamburgers to  
20 Americans.

Where foods come from isn’t nearly as important as how they taste; as long as they are delicious! So, go get some of your favorite food and dig in.



Reading Time

\_\_\_\_\_ minutes \_\_\_\_\_ seconds

230 words

6 **wealthy**: rich

7 **spice**: a thing used or added to make food taste good

9 **language**: way of speaking by a certain country or group of people

11 **dish**: food

14 **truth**: fact; reality

19 **sailor**: a person who works on ships

## Choose the best answer.

1. What is the main idea of this reading?
  - a. Curry was created in England.
  - b. There are many foods that help your body.
  - c. People created fast food long ago.
  - d. Some facts about foods are surprising.
2. Which is probably true about British curry dishes in the 1400s?
  - a. The dishes did not have meat.
  - b. The spices cost a lot.
  - c. People ate curry on special days.
  - d. British sailors first made curry.
3. What did people in Naples learn from Persians?
  - a. How to make pizza
  - b. How to cook cheese
  - c. How to use spices from Iran
  - d. How to make flat bread
4. Who introduced hamburgers to America?
  - a. Persians
  - b. Otto Kuasw
  - c. Italians
  - d. German sailors
5. Which food was probably made first?
  - a. Hamburgers
  - b. Cheesy Persian bread
  - c. Italian pizza
  - d. English curry

## Idiomatic Expressions




### Find these idioms in the reading.

- **find out (about)** [ to learn (of) ]  
Hey, I just **found out** that class is cancelled tomorrow.
- **catch on** [ to become popular ]  
In the 1990s, cell phones really **caught on**.
- **dig in** [ to begin eating with excitement ]  
The child was very hungry, so he **dug in** before his parents sat down.

### Fill in the blank with one of the above idioms. Change its form if necessary.

1. All of the food is ready. \_\_\_\_\_!
2. Did you \_\_\_\_\_ what time the movie starts?
3. These days, Latin dancing is \_\_\_\_\_.

Scan the passage and complete the chart with the correct information.

| 1377<br>created  | 1891<br>introduced  | 500s<br>wealthy  |
|--|---|--|
| Curry   | Pizza                          | Hamburgers                                      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Word already in the English language by 1 _____</li> <li>Cooked for 2 _____ English families</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 _____ in Persia</li> <li>Was eaten in Persia in the 4 _____</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 _____ to Americans by German sailors</li> <li>First made in Hamburg in 6 _____</li> </ul> |

## Listening

### The First Sandwich



Listen to the dialog and complete each sentence.

- Mike found Janet \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Lord Montagu was the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The first sandwich was made with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



**A. Choose the best word or phrase to fill in the blank.**

1. The man owns three hotels. He is very \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. comfortable                      b. tired                      c. unique                      d. wealthy
2. People think snakes are dangerous. \_\_\_\_\_, most snakes are not.  
a. Unusually                      b. Finally                      c. First                      d. Surprisingly
3. He knows \_\_\_\_\_ all of his relatives' birthdays, except for his aunt and uncle's.  
a. in reality                      b. before                      c. nearly                      d. behind
4. \_\_\_\_\_ my mother, washing clothes by hand is better than using a washing machine.  
a. According to                      b. Before                      c. After                      d. In reality
5. This soup does not \_\_\_\_\_ right. Did you forget to put in onions?  
a. cook                      b. make                      c. create                      d. taste
6. I do not have enough \_\_\_\_\_ to make this dish.  
a. fur                      b. hamburgers                      c. stories                      d. spices
7. We \_\_\_\_\_ how the magician did the amazing trick.  
a. created                      b. found out                      c. introduced                      d. thought

**B. Choose the correct form of the word to fill in the blank.**

8. I made this sculpture. It is my \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. creation                      b. creates                      c. creative
9. How does it taste? Please tell me \_\_\_\_\_ if it is good or bad.  
a. truth                      b. true                      c. truthfully
10. Let me \_\_\_\_\_ you to my cousin.  
a. introduction                      b. introduce                      c. introduced