

VEGETARIANISM

Read the text and choose the correct word.

Until recently, vegetarianism was fairly uncommon in Britain, and it is (0)_____ considered strange by some. But since the 1960s its popularity has increased greatly, to the (1)_____ that high stores stock a huge variety of products for vegetarians.

The reasons people give for not eating meat are (2)_____. Perhaps most vegetarians do it for moral reasons, arguing that it is (3)_____ to kill. The opposing point of view is that it is (4)_____ for us to kill for food, and that we have evolved to do so. Still, there are societies where eating meat is not allowed because it is (5)_____ their religion.

There are other good reasons to (6)_____ meat, one of which is the inefficiency of livestock farming. A single (7)_____ of soya bean plants can actually (8)_____ 200 times as much protein as the number of cattle which could be raised on the same (9)_____ of land, so a vegetarian world might be a world without hunger.

Although it is, in theory, cheaper to eat only vegetables, vegetarianism is most (10)_____ in richer countries such as Germany and Britain, where many people (11)_____ meat for health reasons. In these countries, at least, it (12)_____ to be a matter of choice rather than necessity.

