

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Scan the article. Which city does pizza come from? When did pizza arrive in New York? What do people in Japan like in their pizzas?

# PIZZA:

## The World's Favorite Food?

Food, and the way we eat it, is always changing. As society develops, we learn new ways of growing, processing, and cooking food. [a] Also, when people travel to live in other countries, they take their knowledge of cooking with them. And food must fit modern lifestyles and local tastes, too. One food that has done this successfully is the pizza.

The pizza we recognize today first appeared in Italy in 1889. A famous baker from Naples made a special pizza for the Italian royal family. [b] Queen Margherita loved the dish so much, the baker named it after her. Since then, this simple meal of bread, cheese, and tomato has traveled the world, and it has adapted to local cultures. Pizza began its journey in the 1890s, when many Italians moved to New York in search of a better life. There they continued to make pizzas, and the first pizzeria opened in 1905.



At first it was only popular with Italians, but by the late 1940s, Americans discovered a taste for it. Today, they spend an incredible \$37 billion a year on pizzas. [c]

Pizza continued its travels around the world, adapting all the time. In Sweden, for example, it is not unusual to have peanuts and bananas on your pizza. [d] Japan is a nation of seafood lovers, so not surprisingly, they love octopus and squid, as well as roasted seaweed, toppings. Australians sometimes choose kangaroo or crocodile, and in the Philippines they like mango on their pizza.

The popularity of the pizza is also related to our changing lifestyles. In today's super-fast society, people often don't have the time or energy to cook. So, they order takeout – and very often, it's a pizza. [e] If you don't even have time to sit down, buy a single slice and eat it standing up!

The pizza has come a long way. From its beginnings in an Italian city, it has grown to become one of the world's favorite foods.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the article. Where do these sentences belong to? Write the letters a-e.

1. That's more than \$100 per American!
2. What we ate 200 years ago was very different from what we eat today.
3. In Belgium, people eat chocolate pizzas with marshmallows on top.
4. Sometimes you don't even have to pick it up; it's delivered to your home.
5. He was very worried they wouldn't like it, but they did.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Scan the article. What can cause allergies?

**ANDREW** was sneezing all of the time. He took an aspirin every morning for a week before he decided to see a doctor. She told him that he had hay fever, an allergy to the pollen from the juniper trees that grew in the area where Andrew lived. The doctor suggested an anti-allergy medicine that he had to take three times a day. But Andrew didn't get completely well until he also bought an air filter to clean the air in his apartment.



**MARIANA** loved her cat Lucy very much, but her eyes were always red and irritated. She discovered she had an allergy to her cat! She tried to pet Lucy less, but that didn't work. Her friends advised her to give Lucy away, but Mariana couldn't do that. Instead she changed where Lucy could go. Lucy was no longer allowed in Mariana's bedroom. Mariana made a little bed for Lucy in the garage. Mariana played with her cat outside because fresh air is best for cat allergies.

It was a very sad day when **ERIC'S** mother told him he shouldn't eat his favorite food anymore. He had a food allergy, she said, and peanut butter was the problem. Peanuts made his skin very red with a painful itch. Eric tried to eat less peanut butter, but he still itched. Now Eric eats almond butter, cashew butter, and tahini, which is also called sesame butter. A lot of his friends also eat these foods since Eric's school no longer serves peanut butter because of peanut allergies.



**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the article and complete the chart.

	Problem	What didn't work	What worked
Andrew			
Mariana			
Eric			