

OLLIE, DON'T EAT THAT!

When Ollie James was one, his brother had a tiny pet turtle. One day, it disappeared. Then Ollie's mum noticed a turtle's leg, hanging out of Ollie's mouth! This was the beginning of Ollie's interest in very unusual types of food. And, don't worry, the turtle was fine! Now, aged 16, Ollie's eaten everything from ants to zebra. And for the last two years, he's written about them on his blog: 'Ollie, Don't Eat That!'



1 Once my dad brought home some giant toasted ants from a business trip to Colombia. They tasted good, like salty meat. I described them on a website and I got a *lot* of replies! So I started looking for other unusual foods and I set up a blog to write about them. I've tried over a hundred different things since I started my blog.

2 The strangest is durian fruit, from South East Asia. It's actually illegal to carry them on public transport in some countries because they smell disgusting – like old fruit and rubbish. However, they taste incredible – sweet and creamy. I've also cooked with unusual ingredients. I found a recipe for an ostrich curry online, and last week I made that. An ostrich is a bird, but its meat is dark red. I expected a strong flavour, but it isn't as meaty as lamb. I got it from an ostrich farm in England.

3 That's definitely the cheeseburger in a can. A reader sent it to me from Germany. It tasted like a really low-quality vegetarian burger. It looked horrible and it tasted worse. I really couldn't finish it.



4 Oh, my favourite is miracle berries, from Africa. They taste bitter, and after you eat them anything that's sour tastes sweet! Lemon juice, for example, tastes like sweet lemonade!

5 Not once. I'm always careful that the food is safe. My parents check everything. They've tried lots of things too. They loved my ostrich curry!



READING

1 Read the interview quickly. Match questions a–e to spaces 1–5.

- a What's the most interesting thing you've ever eaten?
- b Why did you start your website?
- c Have you ever been ill because of something you've tried?
- d And what about the most disgusting?
- e What's the best food you've tried?

2 Complete the sentences with one word in each space.

- 1 Ollie started his blog _____ years ago.
- 2 Ollie's _____ gave him the toasted ants.
- 3 In some countries, it's against the law to _____ durian fruit on public transport
- 4 The smell of durian fruit is _____.
- 5 Ollie recently made a curry with some ostrich _____.
- 6 Ollie didn't eat all of the cheeseburger in a _____.
- 7 Miracle berries make sour things taste _____.
- 8 Ollie has never been _____ from eating foods for his blog.

**3 Find these words in the article.
Then match them to their meanings.**

- 1** giant
 - a** very large
 - b** very small
- 2** recipe
 - a** instructions for cooking something
 - b** a book about food
- 3** flavour
 - a** how food or drink smells
 - b** how food or drink tastes
- 4** lamb
 - a** meat of a young sheep
 - b** a type of fruit
- 5** low-quality
 - a** something that's very good
 - b** something that isn't very good



TALKING POINTS

What food or drink from your country would you like Ollie to try?

Do you think more people will eat insects in the future? Why? / Why not?

READING

- 1** Which of the following fruits come from the hottest parts of the world?
Which are from cooler parts?

apple banana mango pear pineapple strawberry

Hotter

Cooler

2 Read Marta's blog and put the events in order. Write the numbers 1-6.

- a Her parents decided to visit a farm. _____
- b Marta wrote her blog post. _____
- c Her parents' friends arrived from another country. _____
- d They went on a tour of the farm. _____
- e Marta took her school books with her. _____
- f A man offered Marta a strange piece of fruit. _____

ABOUT • RECENT POSTS • SEND A MESSAGE • RECOMMENDATIONS

Hi guys! Just wanted to tell you what I've done **recently**. Well, we had some visitors from the UK and so Mum and Dad thought it would be nice to take them to Tropical Fruit World. They said, 'We haven't been, so let's go together. It looks interesting.' I know, it sounds so **dull**! I don't know how anyone could think it's interesting to go to a fruit farm! Anyhow, I had to go, so I took my music and books for some schoolwork and planned to have a drink in the café.

We got there and there weren't many people, and there were all these strange-looking fruits. A man asked me if I wanted to try some chocolate pudding fruit! I was like, 'What is that!?' I tried it and it really tasted like chocolate **pudding**. Then we tried others including jackfruit, which tastes like pineapple and banana together, and dragon fruit, which has a sweet taste. It's a bit **odd** but really delicious. There's also a chewing gum fruit, star apples and many more! It was so interesting – I had no idea.

Then we went on a walk with a woman from the farm, Betty. She showed us 50 different kinds of mango! I honestly thought there was just one **variety** of mango! Not true! Betty told us about many other amazing fruits too. Finally, we went to the café and tried some of them. In the end, I have to say it was a real adventure, and I was really pleased I went!

#fruit #thanks #mumanddad #parentsknowbest



3 Read Marta's blog again and choose the correct answer.

- 1 Marta visited the fruit farm *with her parents* / *on her own*.
- 2 Marta planned to *do her homework* / *sit in the car* while her parents were visiting the fruit farm.
- 3 When they arrived at the farm, they tried some fruits *they didn't know* / *that were familiar to them*.
- 4 Marta thought all the new fruit was *disgusting* / *tasty*.
- 5 Before Marta went to the farm, she *knew* / *didn't realise* that there were so many different types of mango.
- 6 By the end of her blog entry, Marta is *positive* / *disappointed* about the fruit farm.

4 Complete the sentences with the **highlighted** words from the text.

- 1 I _____ bought some tropical fruits in the supermarket.
- 2 This book is really _____ – nothing exciting happens.
- 3 Mum usually makes a _____ for Sunday lunch.
- 4 You can buy a _____ of teas from the new tea shop that's opened in town.
- 5 Look at this _____ message I've received. Do you understand it?