

Reading

The History of Fish and Chips



Read the gapped text and insert the missing pieces. There are 2 extra variants you don't need to use.

Fish and chips: (1) _____ around the world. It's unlikely you'll find many small towns or villages up and down the country that don't have a fish and chip shop on the corner.

However, neither fried fish nor chips were first eaten in the UK. It is believed that fried fish covered in flour was brought into the country by Jewish visitors from Spain and Portugal in the early 1800s. Chips are also believed to have come from someplace else, (2) _____. It's difficult to say for sure which of these two countries started frying potatoes first.

Experts are also not sure where fish and chips were first sold together in the UK. Some believe the prize should go to a man called Joseph Malin, (3) _____. His family started by selling fried potatoes and then later added fish to the menu. However, others believe first prize should go to someone called John Lees. Records show that he was also selling fish and chips around the 1860s in a market in Lancashire in the north of England.

Until as recently as the 1980s the takeaway was served wrapped in old newspaper (4) _____. However, shops doing this were told to stop (5) _____. Newspaper could only be used if the food was wrapped in more hygienic paper first.

The popularity of other takeaway meals such as pizza or burgers has certainly led to (6) _____. There are now thought to be around 8,000 of them in the country. This is compared to the 35,000 in the 1990s.

- A for reasons of people's health;
- B either France or Belgium;
- C another country or even continent;
- D to encourage reading;
- E who opened a shop in London around the 1860s;
- F in order to save money;
- G a decline in the number of fish and chip shops;
- H the meal the UK is probably best known for.