

Matura bez problemu – zadania tekstowe 6

Przeczytaj tekst. Po każdym akapicie zdecyduj, czy zdania podane poniżej wyrażają prawdę - 'true', czy fałsz - 'false'.

In times past, and in times of food shortage, farmers grew crops that they knew performed well on their soil, and which gave them good prices. Nowadays, the first part of the food chain, agriculture, is governed by the end user of the food chain - the consumer. Retailers compete for market share offering a good variety of food products at attractive prices to numerous customers.

- a) **In modern times the influence of customers on the prices of products is greater than in the past.**

In earlier times, people grew much of their own food, producing sufficient for their own and their family's needs. These days, people rely increasingly on others to grow and process food. This has led to the development of the food industry, the largest industry in the world.

- b) **The growth of the food industry has been stimulated by rising demand on food from the people who cannot produce it for themselves.**

In the United Kingdom, for example, the food and drink sector has an annual value of 80 billion pounds. In many developed countries, food processing accounts for some 10 to 15 per cent of all manufactured products. With increasing prosperity and standards of living in many developed countries, people devote a lower percentage of their total income to purchasing food.

- c) **In a number of prosperous countries the more people earn, the more they spend on food.**

A hundred years ago, when British consumers lived, on average, for about 50 years, half of their income was spent on food. Now, with our higher standard of living, life expectancy exceeds 70 years, and only 20 per cent of household income is spent on food purchases. An increasing amount of foods being bought are manufactured or prepared.

- d) **These days people live longer than a century ago because they tend to spend more money on good food products.**

Less well-off people, aware of the essential energy provided by food, spend a higher proportion of their scarce income on food. People with higher incomes, on the other hand, may see food more in terms of enjoyment and look for greater quality, with regard to product ingredients, and greater variety, sometimes alternating between dieting and overeating.

- e) **Wealthier consumers are less likely to consider food merely as a source of energy.**