THE HISTORY OF FISH AND CHIPS



Five sentences have been removed from the text below. For each question, choose the correct answer and write the letter in the space. There are 3 sentences which you do not need.

Fish and chips: the meal the UK is probably best known for 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. (1)_____ It's difficult to say for sure which of these two countries started frying potatoes first, as to begin with this was street food sold as fast food snacks to poorer people. (2) _____

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, who opened a shop in London around the 1860s. His family started by selling fried potatoes and then later added fish to the menu. (3) _____ 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, a custom that some say started in order to save money. (4)_____ 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 a decline in the number of fish and chip shops. There are now thought to be around 8,000 of them in the country. (5)_____ But this is still a huge number when compared to some of the well-known fast food businesses.

A Because of this, there is nothing to show where the practice actually began.
B However, shops doing this were told to stop for reasons of people's health.
C Then there's the difference of opinion about the size of chips.
D Chips are also believed to have come from elsewhere- either France or Belgium.
E There are no records to show which shop opened first.
F However, others believe first prize should go to someone called John Lees.
G This is compared to the 35,000 in the 1930s.
H However, it is clearly not a healthy meal.



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