

## The History of Fish and Chips

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).....UK corner shops

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.
- 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.
- 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.

## Surfing

Surfing grew throughout the 20th century to (21) ..... a popular sport all over the world, but surfers have been around for many years. The explorer James Cook saw surfing in action in 1778 during an (22) ..... to the Pacific. In fact, surfing took (23) ..... in the same areas then that have since become popular surfing resorts now, such as Hawaii and Tahiti. Surfing wasn't encouraged by local officials (24) ..... the 19th century but young Hawaiians took up the activity again in the early 1900s. Following the invention of lighter surfboards, surfing attracted people around the world. The 1960s saw a huge increase in the (25) ..... of surfers as the activity was promoted through the media and popular music. The hobby quickly became the professional sport it is now, and (26) ..... and national organisations were created that organised competitions and raised money to hold events.

- |    |              |          |          |            |
|----|--------------|----------|----------|------------|
| 21 | A create     | B turn   | C become | D play     |
| 22 | A expedition | B travel | C drive  | D move     |
| 23 | A part       | B place  | C point  | D position |
| 24 | A while      | B along  | C for    | D during   |
| 25 | A group      | B total  | C number | D sum      |
| 26 | A near       | B close  | C next   | D local    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>To: maggie@yahoo.com</b></p> <p><b>From: Viviane@gmail.com</b></p> <p><b>Excited about cooking for you tonight. Remember -catch the number 12 bus from the station. The number 1 takes the long route. You'll see the city but the food will get cold!</b></p> | <p><b>A</b> Viviane doesn't want the meal to be spoilt.</p> <p><b>B</b> Viviane thinks it would be good if Maggie sees the city before she arrives.</p> <p><b>C</b> There are two buses that Viviane recommends.</p> |
| <p><b>Clear dishes of food before putting them in the dishwasher.</b></p> <p><b>Dishwasher must not be in operation after the office closes.</b></p>                                                                                                                 | <p><b>A</b> Empty the dishwasher before leaving the office.</p> <p><b>B</b> Do not put food in the dishwasher.</p> <p><b>C</b> See instructions for operating the dishwasher.</p>                                    |
| <p><b>Hi Fiona,</b></p> <p><b>Will be home late. Just had an accident. No need to pick me up car can be driven -the home. Please text me the phone number of Steve the mechanic.</b></p> <p><b>Jordan</b></p>                                                        | <p><b>A.</b> Fiona should go and get Jorden</p> <p><b>B.</b> Jordan needs Fiona to send him some information</p> <p><b>C.</b> Fiona should call the mechanic</p>                                                     |

## **Jon Levenson talks about working in comedy**

At school I was always the one with the funny comment, the class clown who never took things too seriously. I enjoyed making my friends laugh, and to be honest, I seemed to be quite good at it. This was why, at university, I decided to join a comedy club, a small group of people who wanted to practise their joke-telling in front of a live audience. Once a week I would go on stage in front of a small group of people and tell my jokes. This was my introduction to becoming a comedian.

Over the past few years I've continued with my hobby. Instead of jokes I like to talk about things that I experience in life that I find amusing. I'm a dad to a young son and a lot of my act is about some of the funny things he does or about being a father. The events I perform at only attract small audiences, but you get a lot of support and people do at least try to laugh, even if they don't like your act.

I work in an office 9-5 and I perform at the weekend. But don't think for one minute that it's just a few hours' work. Thinking of ideas is difficult. And you need to test these ideas and see what makes people laugh and what doesn't. You then throw some things out completely or change them a bit and try again the next week. In addition to the content it's about finding your style -what makes you special – and that only comes with practice.

Some people say doing what I do must be quite scary. I'm not sure about scary, but it's certainly true that standing in front of an audience and trying to make them laugh is quite a challenge. But it's worth it when you're successful. It's great to make people feel happy and to know that all the time you've spent in preparation has worked. This will always be a

hobby rather than a career for me, but one that will hopefully give me a great deal of pleasure for years to come.

- 1 What does Jon say about his time at university?
  - A It was where he discovered he could make people laugh.
  - B He started a comedy club.
  - C He performed in front of people.
  - D He enjoyed watching other people tell jokes.
- 2 At the events he performs at
  - A the audience think he is funny.
  - B people laugh even if they don't find him funny.
  - C he gets support from other fathers.
  - D he tells jokes.
- 3 Jon explains that
  - A his act doesn't last very long.
  - B he often repeats his act but with changes.
  - C the audience make him feel special.
  - D he sometimes feels he has failed a test.
- 4 What does Jon say about performing?
  - A He finds it very scary.
  - B He's not good enough to make a career out of comedy.
  - C Making people laugh isn't easy.
  - D It means he spends less time at work.
- 5 What would be a good introduction to this article?
  - A In this article, Jon Leverson explains the difficulties of trying to make a career out of comedy.
  - B Do you think you're funny? Jon Leverson tells us the steps to take to become a comedian.

**C** In this week's personal story, Jon Levenson tells us about his unusual hobby – making people laugh.

**D** Life doesn't always go as planned, and Jon Levenson explains how he took a career change at university.