



Unusual Foods



As you grew up, your mother may have served you vegetables for dinner. “They’re good for you,” she might have said. If you were like most kids, you did not like to eat them. But how does an ice cream cone filled with mashed potatoes sound? Or how about a pickle dipped in fruit punch? They sound strange. But these are real foods. Real people all over the world eat them.

Many people are scared of bugs and insects. Some of these bugs are slimy. A few of them are poisonous. Yet there are places where bugs are well-loved foods. After all, bugs are a great source of protein! There are people in Vietnam who like to eat scorpions. Ants are delicious to some in Australia and Colombia. Caterpillars are a favorite in some of the countries of Africa. Of course, it helps that many of these foods are covered in chocolate.

Pizza is a favorite food of many people. In the United States, a pizza often comes covered with cheese, pepperoni, sausage, or mushrooms, to name just a few toppings. But there are some people who like to put different kinds of toppings on their pizzas. In England, some pizzas have been topped with frog legs. In Japan, some pizzas come with squid, ketchup, or maple syrup. In New Zealand, pizzas are known to be served with pickles and grapes. In Brazil, hard-boiled eggs and peas are sometimes used.

A good diet is one that is well balanced. Most people will get sick if they eat the same thing each day. But Keith Sorrell is not like most people. Keith lives in Great Britain. He loves to eat chocolate bars. For more than 17 years, he has eaten only Mars bars. Each day, he eats 12 bars for all three meals – and that is all. On the weekends, he will often eat more than 12. Each year, he eats more than 4,000 Mars bars. But Keith is not obese. In fact, he says that he is in good health. To stay healthy, he drinks orange juice and takes vitamins each day. He says that this gives his body what it needs.



Time _____

Answer comprehension questions on page 101.



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Comprehension Questions

Circle the best answer.

1. This passage is about
 - a. trying new foods.
 - b. eating a balanced diet.
 - c. different foods people eat.
 - d. which foods you should NOT eat.

2. Bugs are a good source of
 - a. fiber.
 - b. protein.
 - c. calcium.
 - d. vitamins.

3. Each year, a man in Great Britain eats more than 4,000
 - a. pizzas.
 - b. insects.
 - c. chocolate bars.
 - d. ice cream cones.

4. This passage mentions each of the following toppings on pizza EXCEPT:
 - a. pickles.
 - b. peaches.
 - c. ketchup.
 - d. frog legs.

5. Sometimes bugs are covered in ____ for a snack.
 - a. honey
 - b. caramel
 - c. chocolate
 - d. peanut butter

6. From this passage, we can infer that
 - a. different people like different foods.
 - b. only people in America eat strange foods.
 - c. you should not eat food that is unfamiliar to you.
 - d. people should be willing to try lots of different foods.

Check your answers on page 171.

The Statue of Liberty

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a 6. c

Thomas Edison

1. c 2. d 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. b

UFOs

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. b 5. d 6. a

William Wallace

1. b 2. c 3. b 4. a 5. c 6. a

Hybrid Cars

1. b 2. d 3. b 4. b 5. d 6. b

Pelé

1. a 2. b 3. b 4. b 5. a 6. c

Unusual Foods

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. b 5. c 6. a

Christopher Columbus

1. a 2. a 3. d 4. a 5. a 6. d

Unicorns

1. b 2. d 3. d 4. a 5. c 6. c

Internet

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a 6. b

Alexander Graham Bell

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. a 5. d 6. b

Mount Rushmore

1. c 2. b 3. a 4. b 5. b 6. c

Chupacabras

1. d 2. b 3. c 4. d 5. a 6. a

Nelson Mandela

1. d 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b

Florence Nightingale

1. a 2. c 3. a 4. c 5. a 6. c

The Australian Outback

1. b 2. b 3. c 4. d 5. c 6. d

The Human Eye

1. a 2. a 3. a 4. d 5. b 6. c

The Grand Canyon

1. d 2. d 3. c 4. b 5. d 6. a

Easter Island

1. c 2. d 3. d 4. a 5. b 6. c

Leonardo da Vinci

1. d 2. a 3. a 4. a 5. b 6. c

Echoes

1. a 2. a 3. d 4. d 5. c 6. c

Eva Perón

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. b 5. b 6. d

Isaac Newton

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. a 6. a

Harriet Tubman

1. d 2. d 3. d 4. b 5. b 6. d

"Talk Like a Pirate Day"

1. d 2. d 3. c 4. c 5. d 6. a

International Date Line

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. b

Werewolves

1. a 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. c

Volcanoes

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. a

Antarctica

1. b 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. c 6. b

Groundhog Day

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. d 5. a 6. c

The Pacific Islands

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. a 7. c

Recycling

1. d 2. d 3. a 4. d 5. c 6. b

Karaoke

1. b 2. b 3. a 4. d 5. b 6. d

Icebergs

1. c 2. c 3. c 4. b 5. c 6. b

Totem Poles

1. a 2. c 3. c 4. b 5. c 6. b

Jackalopes

1. d 2. d 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. a

The Williams Sisters

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. a 5. a 6. b

Jaime Escalante

1. c 2. b 3. b 4. d 5. b 6. d