

Ketchup

Gap fill

Listen to the story and fill in the blanks.

Ketchup is a red, sweet _____ made from tomatoes. But ketchup wasn't _____ red or sweet or made from tomatoes. It's changed a lot since it was _____ in Asia about _____ years ago.

The _____ of ketchup begins in China. Chinese sailors _____ traveled to Asian ports in search of _____ opportunities. Their business was _____ and selling.

In Vietnam, they _____ fishermen who had a _____, brown sauce made from anchovies. Though odd in appearance, Chinese sailors liked the _____. They called it ke-tsiap, which means _____ sauce.

Around the _____, Chinese sailors met traders from England. The British _____ the sauce and sold it in England. English people enjoyed it a lot. Over time, ketchup became an _____ part of China's vast _____ network of trade which included tea, spices, and manufactured _____. Factories were eventually established in Indonesia to produce ketchup for _____.

Because of its _____ and the cost of shipping from Asia, businessmen in England _____ their own fish sauce. They made it with different materials like _____, walnuts and beer. But no tomatoes. At this time, people in Europe didn't eat tomatoes, which were thought to be _____.

Two _____ later, tomatoes were used to make ketchup for the first time. This early _____ had anchovies in order to retain the fishy taste. In the _____, an American named Henry Heinz changed the formula. He removed the fish and _____ more tomatoes and some sugar. This combination _____ ketchup into a red, sweet sauce. That's _____ the same product we buy in shops today.

The history of ketchup is a story about _____ and change. The next _____ you put ketchup on your fries, remember this. You're eating an _____ food with roots in an era of globalization once _____ by China.

Synonym match

Match the words or phrases.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. trade | a. lethal |
| 2. global | b. origins |
| 3. poisonous | c. commerce |
| 4. combination | d. international |
| 5. roots | e. mixture |

True or false

Choose the correct answer.

1. Ketchup originally came from England. T or F
2. Ketchup used to be made with fish. T or F
3. An American company added sugar to the recipe. T or F
4. Chinese sailors sold ketchup to British traders. T or F
5. The Americans were the first to add tomatoes to ketchup. T or F

Ketchup

Anagrams

Move letters. Make a new word.

NOMDDTIEA _____

SMROUOHSM _____

UESCA _____

YILPRPOTUA _____

SRIVENO _____

TOEPRX _____

ESL discussion questions

Talk about the story

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1. What kind of story is this?
 2. Do you like eating food with ketchup? What's your favorite?
 3. Describe the evolution of ketchup from its earliest days.
 4. Besides cost, does ketchup have any down-sides?
 5. Name five foods that do not go with ketchup.
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Writing practice

Put the words in the correct order.

1. and / more / and / added / some / tomatoes / fish / sugar / the / removed / He

2. and / The / trade / about / story / history / ketchup / of / is / a / change

3. opportunities / Asian / ports / in / sailors / to / of / Chinese / trade / search / traveled / frequently

4. 1600s / Chinese / met / from / sailors / the / Around / traders / England

5. discovered / was / years / in / a / Asia / 500 / ago / It's / since / lot / it / changed / about
