

National Donut Day

HISTORY

READING COMPREHENSION



HISTORY OF DONUTS

Welcome to the delicious world of donuts! Have you ever wondered where donuts come from and how they became one of our favorite treats? Let's explore the fascinating history of donuts and learn about their journey from the beginnings to beloved pastries enjoyed by millions around the world.

Traced back to ancient times, the earliest known donut dates back to ancient Rome, where cooks would fry them in honey or sweet syrup. These early treats were enjoyed by people of all ages.

Donuts are believed to have originated in the Netherlands, where they were called "fritjes." The tradition of fried dough was brought to America by immigrants, including the famous "Dunkin' Donuts" chain.

During the 19th century, a European immigrant named Hanson Gregory claimed to have invented the classic ring-shaped donut by punching a hole in the center of his fried dough to make it easier to cook evenly.

DONUTS GO TO WAR

During World War I, donuts became associated with the Salvation Army volunteers who served them to soldiers. These brave volunteers, known as "Donut Lassies," provided a taste of home to soldiers, boosting morale during the war.

THE RISE OF DONUT SHOPS

After the war, donuts continued to grow in popularity, and small donut shops began to appear across America. In the 20th century, the invention of the modern donut, which was easier and faster to produce, led to the rise of chains like Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme.



STORY OF DONUTS

CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. The origin of the earliest known donut is believed to have come from...

a. Greece

b. Rome

c. China

d. Italy

2. The donut believed to have originated in the Netherlands was called...

a. fritjes

b. donuts

c. donut holes

d. donut holes

3. Who is credited with inventing the modern donut?

a. Hanson Gregory

b. Hanson Gregory

c. Hanson Gregory

d. Hanson Gregory

4. What did donuts become associated with during World War I?

a. Soldiers

b. Soldiers

c. Soldiers

d. Soldiers

**NO-PREP &
EDITABLE**

**READING COMPREHENSION
MCQ'S
QUESTIONS
ANSWER KEY**

READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

HISTORY OF DONUTS



Welcome to the delicious world of donuts! Have you ever wondered where donuts come from and how they became one of our favorite treats? Let's explore the fascinating history of donuts and learn about their journey from humble beginnings to beloved pastries enjoyed by millions around the world.

EARLY ORIGINS

The history of donuts can be traced back to ancient times. The earliest known version of a donut-like pastry dates back to ancient Rome, where cooks would fry strips of dough and coat them in honey or sweet syrup. These early treats were a simple yet satisfying indulgence enjoyed by people of all ages.

DUTCH INFLUENCE

The donut as we know it today is believed to have originated in the Netherlands in the 16th century. Dutch settlers brought their tradition of fried dough pastries, known as "olykoeks" or "oily cakes," to America. These early donuts were often irregularly shaped and fried in pork fat.

THE AMERICAN DONUT

Donuts gained popularity in America during the 19th century, thanks in part to the arrival of European immigrants. In 1847, a young sailor named Hanson Gregory claimed to have invented the classic ring-shaped donut by punching a hole in the center of his fried dough to make it easier to cook evenly.



DONUTS GO TO WAR

During World War I, donuts became associated with the American Red Cross and Salvation Army volunteers who served them to soldiers on the front lines. These brave volunteers, known as "Donut Lassies," provided comfort and a taste of home to soldiers, boosting morale during difficult times.

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THE RISE OF DONUT SHOPS

After the war, donuts continued to grow in popularity, and small donut shops began popping up across America. In the 20th century, the invention of the automated donut machine made it easier and faster to produce large quantities of donuts, leading to the rise of chains like Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme.

MODERN DONUTS

Today, donuts come in a wide variety of shapes, sizes, and flavors. From classic glazed donuts to gourmet creations topped with bacon or sprinkles, there's a donut for every taste bud. Donuts have become a beloved treat enjoyed at breakfast, dessert, or any time of day.



CONCLUSION

The history of donuts is a journey filled with sweetness, creativity, and innovation. From ancient Rome to modern-day America, donuts have delighted people of all ages with their delicious taste and comforting presence. So, the next time you bite into a warm, freshly glazed donut, remember the rich history behind this beloved pastry!

READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name _____

Date _____

HISTORY OF DONUTS

DIRECTIONS CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. What is the origin of the earliest known version of a donut-like pastry?

- a) Ancient Greece
- b) Ancient Rome
- c) Ancient Egypt
- d) Ancient China

2. Where is the donut believed to have originated in the 16th century?

- a) France
- b) Germany
- c) Netherlands
- d) Italy

3. Who is credited with inventing the classic ring-shaped donut?

- a) Hanson Gregory
- b) George Washington
- c) Thomas Jefferson
- d) Benjamin Franklin

4. During which war did donuts become associated with American Red Cross and Salvation Army volunteers serving soldiers?

- a) World War I
- b) World War II
- c) The Civil War
- d) The Revolutionary War

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What is the origin of the earliest donut-like pastry?
2. Who is credited with inventing donut?
3. What role did donuts play during the war?
4. What invention facilitated the mass production of donuts in the 20th century?
5. What are some examples of modern-day donuts mentioned in the passage?

5. What were volunteers who served during World War I known as?

- a) Donut Kings
- b) Donut Makers
- c) Donut Lassies
- d) Donut Generals

6. What invention in the 20th century facilitated mass production of donuts?

- a) The automated donut machine
- b) The donut oven
- c) The donut mixer
- d) The donut fryer

7. What are some modern-day donuts mentioned in the passage?

- a) McDonald's and Burger King
- b) Subway and Starbucks
- c) Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme
- d) Taco Bell and Wendy's

8. What is the main theme of the passage?

- a) The history of pancakes
- b) The history of waffles
- c) The history of donuts
- d) The history of cupcakes

9. What century did donuts gain popularity?

- a) 17th century
- b) 18th century
- c) 19th century
- d) 20th century

ANSWER KEY

MCQS

1. b) Ancient Rome
2. c) Netherlands
3. a) Hanson Gregory
4. a) World War I
5. c) Donut Lassies
6. a) The automated donut machine
7. c) Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme
8. c) The history of donuts
9. c) 19th century
10. b) To be enjoyed as a dessert

SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Ancient Rome.
2. Hanson Gregory.
3. Donuts provided comfort to soldiers on the front lines.
4. The automated donut machine.
5. Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme.

10 - MCQ'S & 5
QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY
INCLUDED

READY TO PRINT

NO-PREP !

JUST PRINT AND GO!



EASY EDITING

EDITABLE

***FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

