
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Take Away English 随身英语

Fish and chips gets top billing

炸鱼薯条出风头 成为话剧主角

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Vocabulary: theatre 剧院

Fish and chips have been at the **centre stage** of British cuisine for generations. Now a **theatre company** is **putting on** a **show** which **charts** the history of the dish and its place in national life.



Fish and chips for those with a taste for drama

The Mikron Theatre Company is **touring** the country till the end of October with a play **entitled** One of Each. It's a **tale** of storms at sea, **saucy** secrets and sibling rivalry centred on two **chippies** seeking a **gong**.

And guess where the play is being **staged**? Yes, in restaurants serving fish and chips. Marianne McNamara, the company's **artistic director**, says: "Mikron tours by van and by narrow boat so we aren't able to have a lot of **set**. But when you are in a fish and chip shop you don't need a set. You know you've got all the smells, the **aroma** of fish and chips coming out and people are able to experience what we're describing, what we're celebrating."

Last century, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding were displaced as the national dish and between the First and Second World Wars Britain had 35,000 fish and chip shops.

If the play gets enough **applause**, who knows which other **plots** food might inspire in the future? Pie and mash is popular among people with humble origins. Millionaire footballer David Beckham has probably enjoyed his fair share of Michelin-starred **eateries** but he's still keen on the dish he grew up eating.

Curry has a lot to say about 21st Century Britain. The great number of immigrants from the Indian subcontinent has had an impact on the culture for decades. And many people see spicy curries as the British national dish.

And how about you? What Chinese dish would you write a play about?

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. What's the name of the play about fish and chips?
2. Why does the company's artistic director think there's no need for a set?
3. Who still eats food he liked as a child?
4. Which community is responsible for bringing curry to Britain?
5. Which expression means to be enthusiastic about something?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I've heard that play which has just opened at the National Theatre has a very interesting _____.

gong	tale	plot	aroma
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2. I'm hungry. I'm going to the _____ but I'll be back soon.

set	play	stage	chippy
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3. Robin Williams was a great comedian. He knew how to put _____ a show!

in	on	at	over
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4. You should be a chef. You prepare very _____ dishes.

tasty	saucy	national	smelly
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5. Actors live for the audience's _____.

plot	stage	applause	set
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. What's the name of the play about fish and chips? **One of Each.**
2. Why does the company's artistic director think there's no need for a set? **Because the play is about fish and chips and they stage it in fish and chip restaurants.**
3. Who still eats food he liked as a child? **British footballer David Beckham.**
4. Which community is responsible for bringing curry to Britain? **Immigrants from the Indian subcontinent.**
5. Which expression means to be enthusiastic about something? **To be keen on something.**

Exercise 练习

1. I've heard that play which has just opened at the National Theatre has a very interesting **plot**.
2. I'm hungry. I'm going to the **chippy** but I'll be back soon.
3. Robin Williams was a great comedian. He knew how to put **on** a show!
4. You should be a chef. You prepare very **tasty** dishes.
5. Actors live for the audience's **applause**.

Glossary 词汇表

centre stage	中心, 焦点
theatre company	剧团
to put on	上演
show	表演
to chart	记录
to tour	巡回演出
entitled	名为
tale	(有惊险内容) 故事、传说
saucy	不雅的, 粗俗的, 开色情玩笑的
chippy (chippies)	炸鱼薯条店 (复数: chippies)
gong	奖章
to stage	组织上演
artistic director	艺术总监
set	布景
aroma	香味
applause	掌声, 喝彩
plot	情节
eatery (eateries)	小吃店, 餐馆 (复数: eateries)