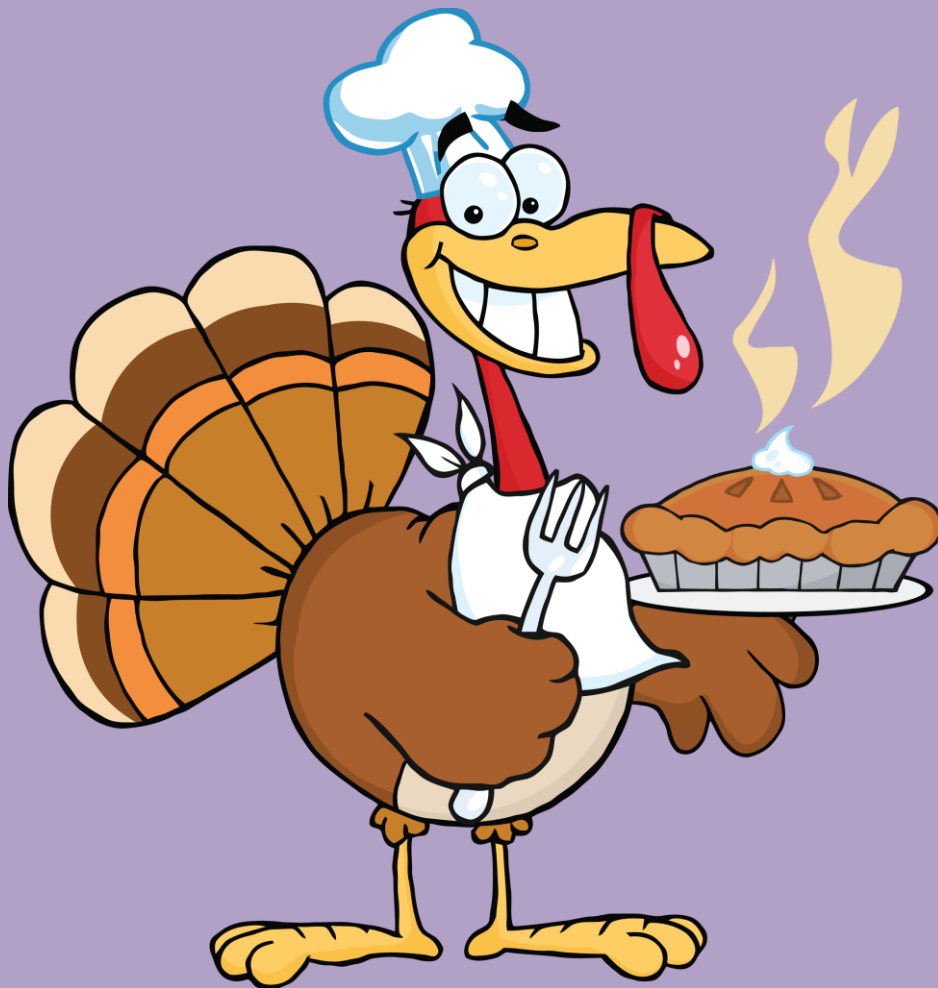


Yum or Yuck?

Researchable Food Trivia
Just in Time for Thanksgiving
from
Brain Candy for Young Scholars



To eat, or not to eat. . .
That is the question.

by Margaret Whisnant

Yum or Yuck?

(Part One)

To eat, or not to eat. . . That is the question.

Some of the items below will reveal surprising facts about familiar foods. Others will give you the information you need to respond correctly when someone says, "Try just one bite." Grab the nearest dictionary or log on to the fastest internet and begin separating the *yum* from the *yuck*. Write the letter of the correct answer in the blank at the left.



- _____ 1. Where do cranberries grow? (A) on a type of tree found only in swampy areas of the South, (B) on a dwarf shrub that grows in acidic bogs throughout the cooler areas of the Northern Hemisphere, (C) on cultivated shrubs grown mainly on large farms in temperate zones.
- _____ 2. Who suggested that the turkey should be our national bird? (A) Benjamin Franklin, (B) John Adams, (C) Abraham Lincoln.
- _____ 3. Chocolate lovers take notice! Which of the following is **not** an available food? (A) chocolate covered ants, (B) chocolate green bean casserole, (C) chocolate dipped mushrooms.
- _____ 4. Which traditional Thanksgiving treat was probably **not** part of the 1621 Pilgrim celebration in Plymouth, Massachusetts? (A) pumpkin pie, (B) venison, (C) corn
- _____ 5. What familiar staple was once thought to be poisonous? (A) lettuce, (B) tomatoes, (C) pumpkins.
- _____ 6. The Irish potato did not come from Ireland. Neither is the French fry from France. Where is the indigenous home of this versatile tuber? (A) the Andes Mountains of South America, (B) the San Louis Valley of Colorado, (C) the coastal region of Spain.
- _____ 7. Some caviar sells for more than a hundred dollars an ounce. What is caviar? (A) insect larvae, (B) a lentil paste, (C) fish eggs.
- _____ 8. There is a type of chocolate confection known as *truffles*, but the natural truffle, still a popular part of French and some Italian cooking, is (A) a type of miniature frog, (B) a fungus that grows two to sixteen inches underground, (C) an olive that grows only along the coast of the Mediterranean.
- _____ 9. In the world of electronics, unsolicited e-mails with advertisements are known as *spam*. Real *spam*, made by Hormel Foods Corporation, actually names its ingredients in its acronym name. What are they? (A) salt, pork, and cornmeal, (B) sausage, paté and sugar mixture, (C) shoulder pork and ham.
- _____ 10. In the nursery rhyme, Little Miss Muffet sat on her tuffet, eating her *curds and whey*. What was Miss Muffet eating? (A) the lumps and liquid of clabbered milk, (B) bread and cheese, (C) a type of pudding made with fermented fruit and bread.
- _____ 11. If you order pizza with *anchovies*, what will be one of the toppings? (A) hot peppers, (B) a vegetable soy protein, (C) small fish.
- _____ 12. You are in a darkened restaurant. The waiter arrives with your much-anticipated last course and sets it on fire. What did you order? (A) rum cake with chocolate sauce, (B) a type of Baked Alaska, (C) jambalaya.
- _____ 13. *Piccaililli* and *chow-chow* are made from the same basic ingredients, but one is laced with hot spices and the other has a sweet taste. How do they fit into a meal? They are used as (A) a topping for meat, such as hot dogs or hamburgers, (B) an appetizer served with crackers or bread, (C) a garnish for basic soup recipes.