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## Level 3

# McDonald's says no GM French fries

**17th November, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

The U.S. government has said a new, genetically modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's said it will not use it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the DNA of normal potatoes to make the vegetables better. It said the new potato has less sugar and fewer things inside it that can give people cancer. It also said the potatoes are stronger. It was confident that people would buy the new potato in supermarkets. McDonald's made a statement about the new potato. It said: "McDonald's USA does not source GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing practices." The company did not say what it thought of McDonald's not using its new potato.

French fries are one of the most commonly eaten foods in the world. They are very popular with fast food restaurants. The expression 'French Fried Potatoes' was first used in English in an 1856 book called 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In the early 20th century, the term 'French fried' was being used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries actually come from Belgium and not France. Both countries say they were the first country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' is used instead of 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide image for good food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers arrived in Europe during World War I.

Sources: <http://www.foodworldnews.com/articles/8918/20141115/what-does-mcdonalds-say-to-gmo-potatoes.htm>  
<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/not-lovin-it-mcdonalds-says-no-simplots-gmo-potato-n249391>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French\\_fries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_fries)

# WARM-UPS

**1. FRENCH FRIES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about French fries. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*government / OK to eat / French fries / hash browns / confident / statement / source / commonly eaten foods / fast food restaurants / cookery / Belgium / worldwide image*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. FOOD:** How many different things can you do with these? How healthy are they? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What can you do with these?	How healthy are they?
Potatoes		
Pasta		
Rice		
Bread		
Bananas		
Chick peas		

**4. GM:** Students A **strongly** believe GM food is OK; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. FAST FOOD:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- French fries
- Pizza
- Hot dogs
- Fried chicken
- Falafel sandwich
- Fish and chips
- Tortilla
- Burger

**6. POTATO:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "potato". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The U.S. government has said no to a new genetically modified potato. T / F
- b. McDonald's said it would not use the potato for its hash browns. T / F
- c. A company said the new potato reduces people's risk of getting cancer. T / F
- d. McDonald's said it had no plans to use the new potato in the future. T / F
- e. The term "French Fried Potatoes" was first used in 1856. T / F
- f. The term 'French-fried' was used to mean 'shallow-fried'. T / F
- g. France agreed that Belgium first made French fries. T / F
- h. British soldiers in World War I took the term 'French Fries' to the USA. T / F

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. OK         | a. term        |
| 2. changed    | b. get         |
| 3. confident  | c. methods     |
| 4. source     | d. altered     |
| 5. practices  | e. rather than |
| 6. popular    | f. fine        |
| 7. expression | g. global      |
| 8. instead of | h. troops      |
| 9. worldwide  | i. positive    |
| 10. soldiers  | j. well-liked  |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. a new, genetically                     | a. of 'Belgian fries'       |
| 2. it changed the DNA                     | b. buy the new potato       |
| 3. fewer things inside it that            | c. what it thought          |
| 4. It was confident that people would     | d. eaten foods in the world |
| 5. The company did not say                | e. to mean 'deep-fried'     |
| 6. one of the most commonly               | f. of normal potatoes       |
| 7. the term 'French fried' was being used | g. arrived in Europe        |
| 8. Both countries say they were           | h. can give people cancer   |
| 9. 'French fries' is used instead         | i. modified potato          |
| 10. used when U.S. soldiers               | j. the first country        |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

The U.S. government has said a new, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's said it will not use it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of normal potatoes to make the vegetables better. It said the new potato has (3) \_\_\_\_\_ sugar and fewer things inside it that can give people cancer. It also said the potatoes are (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It was (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that people would buy the new potato in supermarkets. McDonald's made a statement about the new potato. It said: "McDonald's USA does not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing (7) \_\_\_\_\_." The company did not say what it thought of McDonald's not (8) \_\_\_\_\_ its new potato.

*source*  
*stronger*  
*DNA*  
*using*  
*genetically*  
*confident*  
*practices*  
*less*

French fries are one of the most (9) \_\_\_\_\_ eaten foods in the world. They are very (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with fast food restaurants. The expression 'French Fried Potatoes' was first used in English in an 1856 book called 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In the early 20th century, the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 'French fried' was being used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries (12) \_\_\_\_\_ come from Belgium and not France. Both countries say they were the (13) \_\_\_\_\_ country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' is used (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide (15) \_\_\_\_\_ for good food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers arrived in Europe (16) \_\_\_\_\_ World War I.

*actually*  
*during*  
*popular*  
*instead*  
*commonly*  
*image*  
*term*  
*first*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

- 1) The U.S. government has said a new, genetically modified potato \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. is OK for eat
  - b. is OK to eat
  - c. is OK too eat
  - d. is OK by eat
- 2) McDonald's said it will not use it in its French fries \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and harsh browns
  - b. and hash browns
  - c. and cash browns
  - d. and mash browns
- 3) The potato company said it changed the DNA \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of normally potatoes
  - b. of norm all potatoes
  - c. of no meal potatoes
  - d. of normal potatoes
- 4) the new potato has less sugar and fewer things inside it that can \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. take people cancer
  - b. give people cancer
  - c. hurt people cancer
  - d. pain people cancer
- 5) nor do we have current plans to change our \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. saucing practices
  - b. sourcing practices
  - c. saucy practices
  - d. sorcery practices
- 6) French fries are one of the most commonly eaten \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. foods on the world
  - b. foods in the world
  - c. foods at the world
  - d. foods by the world
- 7) first used in English in an 1856 book called 'Cookery \_\_\_\_\_'
  - a. for Maids of Tall Work
  - b. for Maids of Fall Work
  - c. for Maids of All Work
  - d. for Maids of Mall Work
- 8) Both countries say they were the first country to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. cooked French fries
  - b. cooking French fries
  - c. cooks French fries
  - d. cook French fries
- 9) Belgians say the word 'French fries' is used instead \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of 'Belgian flies'
  - b. of 'Belgian frieze'
  - c. of 'Belgian freeze'
  - d. of 'Belgian fries'
- 10) Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. arrival in Europe
  - b. arrived in Europe
  - c. arrives in Europe
  - d. arrive in Europe

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

The U.S. government has said (1) \_\_\_\_\_ modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's (2) \_\_\_\_\_ it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the DNA of normal potatoes to make (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It said the new potato has less sugar and fewer things inside it that can give people cancer. It also said the potatoes are stronger. It (4) \_\_\_\_\_ people would buy the new potato in supermarkets. McDonald's made a statement about the new potato. It said: "McDonald's USA (5) \_\_\_\_\_ GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing practices." The company did not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ McDonald's not using its new potato.

French fries are one of the most (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in the world. They are very popular with fast food restaurants. The expression 'French Fried Potatoes' (8) \_\_\_\_\_ English in an 1856 book called 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In (9) \_\_\_\_\_, the term 'French fried' was being used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Belgium and not France. Both countries say they were the first country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide image for good food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Europe during World War I.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

1. What did the U.S. government say it was OK to do with the potato?

---

2. What part of the potato did a potato company change?

---

3. What is there less of in the new potato?

---

4. Where did a potato company say people would buy the new potato?

---

5. What did the potato company think of McDonald's?

---

6. In what kind of restaurants are French fries very popular?

---

7. When was the term "French Fried Potatoes" first used?

---

8. Where do food historians say French fries come from?

---

9. How many countries say they were the first to make French fries?

---

10. Who arrived in Europe during WWI and used the term "French fries"?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

1. What did the U.S. government say it was OK to do with the potato?
  - a) sell it
  - b) invest in it
  - c) eat it
  - d) plant it
2. What part of the potato did a potato company change?
  - a) the DNA
  - b) the eyes
  - c) the skin
  - d) the seeds
3. What is there less of in the new potato?
  - a) fat
  - b) sugar
  - c) carbohydrate
  - d) calories
4. Where did a potato company say people would buy the new potato?
  - a) on farms
  - b) at a vegetable market
  - c) Potatoland
  - d) supermarkets
5. What did the potato company think of McDonald's?
  - a) very little
  - b) nothing
  - c) it didn't say
  - d) a lot
6. In what kind of restaurants are French fries very popular?
  - a) haute cuisine restaurants
  - b) fast food restaurants
  - c) French restaurants
  - d) street food stalls
7. When was the term "French Fried Potatoes" first used?
  - a) 1658
  - b) 1865
  - c) 1685
  - d) 1856
8. Where do food historians say French fries come from?
  - a) McDonald's
  - b) Belgium
  - c) Paris
  - d) New York
9. How many countries say they were the first to make French fries?
  - a) one
  - b) two
  - c) three
  - d) four
10. Who arrived in Europe during WWI and used the term "French fries"?
  - a) American soldiers
  - b) chefs
  - c) potato farmers
  - d) cookery book writers

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

## **Role A – French fries**

You think French fries are the best fast food. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their fast food isn't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pizza, burgers or hot dogs.

## **Role B – Pizza**

You think pizza is the best fast food. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their fast food isn't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): French fries, burgers or hot dogs.

## **Role C – Burgers**

You think burgers are the best fast food. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their fast food isn't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pizza, French fries or hot dogs.

## **Role D – Hot dogs**

You think hot dogs are the best fast food. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their fast food isn't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pizza, burgers or French fries.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'hash' and 'brown'.

<b>hash</b>	<b>brown</b>
-------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• new</li><li>• changed</li><li>• less</li><li>• buy</li><li>• nor</li><li>• thought</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• popular</li><li>• fast</li><li>• mean</li><li>• first</li><li>• instead</li><li>• soldiers</li></ul>
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# FRENCH FRIES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

Write five GOOD questions about French fries in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# FRENCH FRIES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'potato'?
- 3) How important are potatoes in your life?
- 4) What do you think of genetically modified (GM) food?
- 5) What do you think of McDonald's not using the new potato?
- 6) What do you think of McDonald's?
- 7) Would you buy GM potatoes?
- 8) What are the good and bad things about GM food?
- 9) What are the good and bad things about potatoes?
- 10) Which is best, rice or pasta?

*McDonald's says no GM French fries – 17th November, 2014*  
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# FRENCH FRIES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) How important are French fries in your culture?
- 13) How would your life change if French fries did not exist?
- 14) Why are French fries so popular?
- 15) How healthy are French fries?
- 16) What is the best way to eat French fries?
- 17) Why are French fries called 'French fries'?
- 18) What do you think of French food?
- 19) What other things can you do with potatoes?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the boss of McDonald's?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

The U.S. government has said a new, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's said it will not use it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of normal potatoes to make the vegetables better. It said the new potato has (3) \_\_\_\_\_ sugar and fewer things inside it that can give people cancer. It also said the potatoes are stronger. It was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that people would buy the new potato in supermarkets. McDonald's made a statement about the new potato. It said: "McDonald's USA does not (5) \_\_\_\_\_ GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing (6) \_\_\_\_\_." The company did not say what it thought of McDonald's not using its new potato.

French fries are one of the most commonly (7) \_\_\_\_\_ foods in the world. They are very popular with fast food restaurants. The (8) \_\_\_\_\_ 'French Fried Potatoes' was first used in English in an 1856 book (9) \_\_\_\_\_ 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In the early 20th century, the term 'French fried' was being used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries actually (10) \_\_\_\_\_ from Belgium and not France. Both countries say they were the first country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' is used instead (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide image for good food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers arrived in Europe (12) \_\_\_\_\_ World War I.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |               |                |                 |                 |
|-----|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) genes     | (b) genetics   | (c) genetically | (d) generally   |
| 2.  | (a) DNA       | (b) AND        | (c) ADN         | (d) DAN         |
| 3.  | (a) less      | (b) smaller    | (c) fewer       | (d) many        |
| 4.  | (a) confident | (b) confidence | (c) confidante  | (d) confidently |
| 5.  | (a) sours     | (b) source     | (c) sauce       | (d) saws        |
| 6.  | (a) stylish   | (b) matter     | (c) stuff       | (d) practices   |
| 7.  | (a) ate       | (b) eating     | (c) eaten       | (d) eats        |
| 8.  | (a) creation  | (b) action     | (c) direction   | (d) expression  |
| 9.  | (a) called    | (b) shouted    | (c) whispered   | (d) spoken      |
| 10. | (a) go        | (b) come       | (c) arrive      | (d) land        |
| 11. | (a) for       | (b) of         | (c) from        | (d) at          |
| 12. | (a) daring    | (b) boring     | (c) during      | (d) baring      |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. a new, genetically idemifod potato
2. make the etsaeblevg better
3. It was fnoncited
4. made a nseamttt about the new potato
5. McDonald's USA does not cerous GMO potatoes
6. change our ucgsorin practices

## Paragraph 2

7. very apluorp with fast food restaurants
8. In the early 20th nectryu
9. Food ssoitranih
10. used itansde of 'Belgian fries'
11. France has a worldwide mgaei
12. lisoserd arrived in Europe during World War I



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) "McDonald's USA does not source GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to
- ( ) used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries actually come from Belgium and
- ( ) change our sourcing practices." The company did not say what it thought of McDonald's not using its new potato.
- ( ) popular with fast food restaurants. The expression 'French Fried Potatoes' was first used in English
- ( ) not France. Both countries say they were the first country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' is
- ( ) use it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the DNA of normal
- ( ) inside it that can give people cancer. It also said the potatoes are stronger. It was confident that people would
- ( ) French fries are one of the most commonly eaten foods in the world. They are very
- ( **1** ) The U.S. government has said a new, genetically modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's said it will not
- ( ) food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers arrived in Europe during World War I.
- ( ) potatoes to make the vegetables better. It said the new potato has less sugar and fewer things
- ( ) buy the new potato in supermarkets. McDonald's made a statement about the new potato. It said:
- ( ) used instead of 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide image for good
- ( ) in an 1856 book called 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In the early 20th century, the term 'French fried' was being

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

1. is eat , potato to new modified OK A genetically.

---

2. it use not will it said McDonald's fries French its in.

---

3. potatoes normal of DNA the changed It.

---

4. give inside can cancer things that people Fewer it.

---

5. company say thought The not it McDonald's did what of.

---

6. the most commonly eaten foods French fries are one of.

---

7. very food are fast They with popular restaurants.

---

8. actually Historians come say from French Belgium fries.

---

9. worldwide image France for has good a food.

---

10. I in War arrived World soldiers When during Europe U.S.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

The U.S. government has said a *new / newly*, genetically modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's said it will not *using / use* it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the *AND / DNA* of normal potatoes to make the vegetables *good / better*. It said the new potato has less sugar and *fewer / fewest* things inside it that can *give / take* people cancer. It also said the potatoes are *stronger / strengthen*. It was confident that people would buy the new potato in supermarkets. McDonald's made a *statement / stated* about the new potato. It said: "McDonald's USA does not *sauce / source* GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing practices." The company did not say what it *thought / thinking* of McDonald's not using its new potato.

French fries are one of the most *common / commonly* eaten foods in the world. They are very *popular / popularity* with fast food restaurants. The expression 'French Fried Potatoes' was first *useful / used* in English in an 1856 book called 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In the *early / first* 20th century, the term 'French fried' was *being / been* used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries *actual / actually* come from Belgium and not France. Both *countries / country's* say they were the first country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' is used *rather / instead* of 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide *image / imagine* for good food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers arrived in Europe *during / daring* World War I.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

Th\_ \_ .S. g\_v\_rnm\_nt h\_s s\_\_d \_ n\_w, g\_n\_t\_c\_lly  
m\_d\_f\_\_d p\_t\_t\_ \_s \_K t\_ \_\_t, b\_t McD\_n\_ld's s\_\_d \_t  
w\_ll n\_t \_s\_ \_t \_n \_ts Fr\_nch fr\_\_s \_nd h\_sh br\_wns.  
Th\_ p\_t\_t\_ c\_mp\_ny s\_\_d \_t ch\_ng\_d th\_ DN\_ \_f  
n\_rm\_l p\_t\_t\_ s\_t \_m\_k\_ th\_ v\_g\_t\_bl\_s b\_tt\_r. \_t  
s\_\_d th\_ n\_w p\_t\_t\_ h\_s l\_ss s\_g\_r \_nd f\_w\_r th\_ngs  
\_ns\_d\_ \_t th\_t c\_n g\_v\_ p\_\_pl\_ c\_nc\_r. \_t \_ls\_ s\_\_d  
th\_ p\_t\_t\_ s\_ \_r\_ strng\_r. \_t w\_s c\_nfd\_nt th\_t  
p\_\_pl\_ w\_\_ld b\_y th\_ n\_w p\_t\_t\_ \_n s\_p\_rm\_rk\_ts.  
McD\_n\_ld's m\_d\_ \_st\_t\_m\_nt \_b\_\_t th\_ n\_w p\_t\_t\_. \_t  
s\_\_d: "McD\_n\_ld's \_S\_ d\_\_s n\_t s\_\_rc\_ GM\_ p\_t\_t\_ s,  
n\_r d\_ w\_ h\_v\_ c\_rr\_nt pl\_ns t\_ ch\_ng\_ \_\_r s\_\_rc\_ng  
pr\_ct\_c\_s." Th\_ c\_mp\_ny d\_d n\_t s\_y wh\_t \_t th\_\_ght  
\_f McD\_n\_ld's n\_t \_s\_ng \_ts n\_w p\_t\_t\_.

Fr\_nch fr\_\_s \_r\_ \_n\_ \_f th\_ m\_st c\_mm\_nly \_\_t\_n  
f\_\_ds \_n th\_ w\_rld. Th\_y \_r\_ v\_ry p\_p\_l\_r w\_th f\_st  
f\_\_d r\_st\_\_r\_nts. Th\_ \_\_xpr\_ss\_\_n 'Fr\_nch Fr\_\_d  
P\_t\_t\_ s' w\_s f\_rst \_s\_d \_n \_ngl\_sh \_n \_n 1856 b\_\_k  
c\_ll\_d 'C\_\_k\_ry f\_r M\_\_ds \_f \_ll W\_rk'. \_n th\_ \_\_rly  
20th c\_nt\_ry, th\_ t\_rm 'Fr\_nch fr\_\_d' w\_s b\_\_ng \_s\_d  
t\_ m\_\_n 'd\_\_p-fr\_\_d'. F\_\_d h\_st\_r\_\_ns s\_y Fr\_nch  
fr\_\_s \_ct\_\_lly c\_m\_ fr\_m B\_lg\_\_m \_nd n\_t Fr\_nc\_. B\_th  
c\_\_ntr\_\_s s\_y th\_y w\_r\_ th\_ f\_rst c\_\_ntry t\_ c\_\_k  
Fr\_nch fr\_\_s. B\_lg\_\_ns s\_y th\_ w\_rd 'Fr\_nch fr\_\_s' \_s  
\_s\_d \_nst\_\_d \_f 'B\_lg\_\_n fr\_\_s' b\_c\_\_s Fr\_nc\_ h\_s \_  
w\_rldw\_d\_ \_m\_g\_ f\_r g\_\_d f\_\_d. S\_m\_ p\_\_pl\_ th\_nk  
th\_ t\_rm 'Fr\_nch' w\_s \_s\_d wh\_n \_S. s\_ld\_\_rs \_rr\_v\_d  
\_n \_\_r\_p\_ d\_r\_ng W\_rld W\_r\_.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

the us government has said a new genetically modified potato is ok to eat but mcdonald's said it will not use it in its french fries and hash browns the potato company said it changed the dna of normal potatoes to make the vegetables better it said the new potato has less sugar and fewer things inside it that can give people cancer it also said the potatoes are stronger it was confident that people would buy the new potato in supermarkets mcdonald's made a statement about the new potato it said "mcdonald's usa does not source gmo potatoes nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing practices" the company did not say what it thought of mcdonald's not using its new potato

french fries are one of the most commonly eaten foods in the world they are very popular with fast food restaurants the expression 'french fried potatoes' was first used in english in an 1856 book called 'cookery for maids of all work' in the early 20th century the term 'french fried' was being used to mean 'deep-fried' food historians say french fries actually come from belgium and not france both countries say they were the first country to cook french fries belgians say the word 'french fries' is used instead of 'belgian fries' because france has a worldwide image for good food some people think the term 'french' was used when us soldiers arrived in europe during world war i

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

The U.S. government has said a new, genetically modified potato is OK to eat, but McDonald's said it will not use it in its French fries and hash browns. The potato company said it changed the DNA of normal potatoes to make the vegetables better. It said the new potato has less sugar and fewer things inside it that can give people cancer. It also said the potatoes are stronger. It was confident that people would buy the new potatoes in supermarkets. McDonald's made a statement about the new potato. It said: "McDonald's USA does not source GMO potatoes, nor do we have current plans to change our sourcing practices." The company did not say what it thought of McDonald's not using its new potato. French fries are one of the most commonly eaten foods in the world. They are very popular with fast food restaurants. The expression 'French Fried Potatoes' was first used in English in an 1856 book called 'Cookery for Maids of All Work'. In the early 20th century, the term 'French fried' was being used to mean 'deep-fried'. Food historians say French fries actually come from Belgium and not France. Both countries say they were the first country to cook French fries. Belgians say the word 'French fries' is used instead of 'Belgian fries' because France has a worldwide image for good food. Some people think the term 'French' was used when U.S. soldiers arrived in Europe during World War I.

# FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141117-french-fries.html>

Write about **French fries** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about French fries. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. FRENCH FRIES:** Make a poster about French fries. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. GM FOOD:** Write a magazine article about genetically modified food. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on French fries. Ask him/her three questions about French fries. Give him/her three of your ideas on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d T    e T    f F    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. OK         | a. fine        |
| 2. changed    | b. altered     |
| 3. confident  | c. positive    |
| 4. source     | d. get         |
| 5. practices  | e. methods     |
| 6. popular    | f. well-liked  |
| 7. expression | g. term        |
| 8. instead of | h. rather than |
| 9. worldwide  | i. global      |
| 10. soldiers  | j. troops      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Eat it
2. The DNA
3. Sugar
4. Supermarkets
5. It didn't say
6. Fast food restaurants
7. 1856
8. Belgium
9. Two
10. U.S. soldiers

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c    2. a    3. b    4. d    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)