

Pie-eating contest ends because pies too big

23rd December, 2014



The annual World Pie Eating Championships in England ended in disaster on Friday because the pies were too big. A competition worker made a mistake and ordered pies that

were the wrong size. In fact, the pies used in the contest were twice as big as the rules say they should be. The pies for the competition in Wigan, England, got delivered to a nearby divorce party. The competition was stopped when organisers said the rules had been broken. The competition pies should be a diameter of 12cm and a depth of 3.5cm. The meat and potatoes in the pies should be no more than cubes of 1cm. Barry Rigby, 37, a part-time fitness instructor, had set the fastest time of 42.6 seconds.

The annual World Pie Eating Championship is usually held at Harry's Bar in Wigan, England. It has been held since 1992. It started with competitors trying to eat meat and potato pies as fast as they could. However, in 2006, a vegetable pie was added after pressure from England's Vegetarian Society. The speed-eating competition has had a few problems in the past. In 2005, there were protests because the pies were not from Wigan. A year later, the competition had to change to meet government healthy-eating guidelines. Contestants then had to eat one pie as quickly as they could instead of as many pies as they could. And in 2007, disaster happened when the competition ran out of pies.

Sources: *Manchester Evening News* / *Wikipedia* / *SkyNews*

Writing

Speed-eating contests are a waste of good food. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

disaster / mistake / wrong size / divorce / rules / meat / potatoes / cubes / fitness / annual / pressure / vegetarian / speed eating / problems / healthy eating / guidelines

True / False

- The pie-eating contest happens every four years, like the Olympics. T / F
- A worker from the competition ordered the wrong size of pies. T / F
- The pies that were meant for the competition went to a divorce party. T / F
- The potatoes in the pie should be larger than cubes of 1cm. T / F
- The pie-eating competition started over 50 years ago in England. T / F
- A vegetarian pie was added to the competition in 2006. T / F
- In 2005, people were angry about where the pies were made. T / F
- In 2007, organisers got too many pies and hundreds were left over. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. ended | a. regulations |
| 2. mistake | b. yearly |
| 3. rules | c. complaints |
| 4. delivered | d. error |
| 5. fastest | e. competitors |
| 6. annual | f. quickest |
| 7. started | g. finished |
| 8. protests | h. recommendations |
| 9. guidelines | i. taken |
| 10. contestants | j. began |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think the rules are for this competition?
- What do you think of speed-eating contests?
- What things can you eat very quickly?
- Is it unfair that some contestants can have vegetable pies?
- Where are the best pies in the world from?
- What kind of pies are there in your country's cuisine?
- What fillings would you like to put in a pie?
- What questions would you like to ask the organisers?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. ended in | a. 3.5cm |
| 2. twice | b. of 1cm |
| 3. a depth of | c. of 42.6 seconds |
| 4. no more than cubes | d. eating guidelines |
| 5. set the fastest time | e. out of pies |
| 6. It has been held | f. quickly as they could |
| 7. The speed- | g. disaster |
| 8. meet government healthy- | h. since 1992 |
| 9. eat one pie as | i. eating competition |
| 10. the competition ran | j. as big |

Discussion – Student B

- What kind of pies do you like?
- How would you do in a pie-eating competition?
- Is a pie-eating competition a waste of food?
- Why are there things like pie-eating competitions?
- What do you think about what you read?
- Should the competition have continued with the larger pies?
- How quickly could you eat a 12cm pie?
- What kind of training do champion pie-eaters need to do?

Spelling

- The nnlaau World Pie Eating Championships
- ended in tareids
- got viddleree
- a nearby idorcv party
- a pthde of 3.5cm
- a part-time fitness crstnuitro
- asululy held at Harry's Bar
- after rrsuepse from England's Vegetarian Society
- In 2005, there were srspetto
- meet government healthy-eating unseedligi
- tsatsontenc then had to eat one pie
- etniasd of as many pies as they could

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. a	4. i	5. f
6. b	7. j	8. c	9. h	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Meat pie

You think meat pie is the tastiest kind of pie. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): potato pie, apple pie or ice cream pie.

Role B – Potato pie

You think potato pie is the tastiest kind of pie. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): meat pie, apple pie or ice cream pie.

Role C – Apple pie

You think apple pie is the tastiest kind of pie. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): potato pie, meat pie or ice cream pie.

Role D – Ice cream pie

You think ice cream pie is the tastiest kind of pie. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): potato pie, apple pie or meat pie.

Speaking – Pie fillings

Rank these with your partner. Put the best pi fillings at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| • steak and kidney | • apple |
| • leek and onion | • fish |
| • pumpkin | • blueberry |
| • chicken | • pecan |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.