This is the download from bbc learning English. To find out more visit our website. 6 minute English from BBC Learning English.

Hello and welcome to 6 minutes English. I’m Neil and I’m Rob

Rob, you like your food, don’t you?

Yes, yum yum food. One of my favourite things

And what do you think of street food?

Oh I love street food. There are some great places in London where you can find delicious foods from all over the world cooked in front of you in market stores on the street.

It’s quite new though isn’t it? not really a British tradition

I guess not but it seems to be much more popular these days

Well, our topic today is street food but before we tuck into that, here is today’s question:

Recently, archaeologist Sean John discovered what they believe is the oldest remain of bread, how old is this bread? Is it

A, 18000 years old

B, 14000 years old

Or C 5500 years old

What do you think?

Um, I don’t know but what I do know is I wouldn’t really want to try sandwich made from that bread

Um, might be it’s mouldy

Yes, I‘m going to have a guess. I guess it C, 5500 years old. Right, we will find out the answer later in the program.

Mark Louis is from the nationwide Catriona association. He is an expert in the business of street food in the UK. He appeared on BBC radio for the food program and we asked how the business of street food has changed in recent years. In his answer he talks about the areas where there is most growth in street food. What are those areas?

It’s been the phenomenal the growth in street food it’s really taken off. It’s really become quite mainstream. Part of the cultural fabric of the culture really also beginning to be shattered in the biggest cities and increase in the provinces if you like

So where did he say the popularity of street food is growing. He says that it’s in the biggest cities and also in the provinces. The provinces is a word which means a part of a country outside of the cities. So essentially he’s saying is getting more popular everywhere.

Exactly in fact he says the growth is phenomenal. This means he thinks the growth is spectacular really big, yes he says it is really taking off. Taking off is one of those phrasal verbs that can be used in many different ways. In this sense when something takes off it means it becomes successful and popular.

You know, street food isn’t really something you associate with Britain. Perhaps, the climate or British food. so street food is something we now getting used to and enjoying more. In fact, Mark says this now becoming mainstream. This means there’s no longer something for the seem it’s being unusual or different is becoming an accepted part if the everyday eating experience. Well, let’s listen again to Mark Luise talking about the growth of street food in the UK

It’s been the phenomenal. The growth in street food is really taking off. It’s really becoming quite mainstream. Part of the culture fabric of the culture really also beginning to be shattered in the biggest cities and increasingly the provinces if you like.   
More Gory goes on talk about why street food has become popular. What kind of food did he say it’s not like?  
Yes it really captures the imagination of the public its honest food. It’s authentic food. And it, people you can trust making it. It’s not some microwave food or whatever you might get local pubs.  
So street food is many things. What isn’t it?  
Well he said that it’s not like food you might get in some pubs. That’s food he said maybe some microwaves food, which is food prepared in a microwave oven.   
You know what, I quite like microwave Neil now and then. And I reheat my lactose in a microwave.   
But I guess if you’re paying for a nice meal, you wouldn’t expect reheat lactose Neil. I think the point he’s making is in many places, the food you’re served is not freshly made. It maybe pre-prepared and finished often in a microwave. Street food he said is authentic.  
Yes. Authentic it’s real fresh and cook right in front of you. And if it’s food from particular countries probably being prepared by people from that culture.  
He also said the business captured the imagination of the public, if something the public have experienced and thought, yeah you know I like this. This is a great idea  
All those sorts of food making me hungry. So let’s get the answer to the quiz and review today’s vocabulary before we head off and wrap and buy to it  
We asked about the age of bread discovered by archeologists in Jordan. Was it   
a) 18000 years old  
b) 14,000 years old or  
c) 5,500 years old  
And I said c, 5500 years old.   
I’m afraid it’s a lot moldier than that. The answer with 14,000 years old.   
Very tasty. I’m sure.  
Yes. Right then the vocabulary we started after the adjective phenomenal to describe something that is amazing, remarkable and extraordinary.   
Then we had to take off. A phrasal verb which means to become popular. Street food is really taking off in the UK become really popular. Not just in the city but also in the provinces which is a noun to describe areas of the country that aren’t the major cities.  
Something which captures the imagination is something that makes you interested and not just for short time.  
And one thing which is captures the imagination of the British public is authentic street food. Something’s authentic is real, is genuine, not a fake or a copy.   
And finally we have microwave food. Food prepared in a microwave oven. And that kind of food is not seen by something authentic.  
Well it’s time to eat. That’s all we have time for today. Join us again next time and remember you can find us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and of course our website bbclearningenglish.com  
See you soon. Bye  
Bye bye.