

1. Haggis

This lesson focuses on haggis, the distinctive dish traditionally consumed as part of the Burns Night celebrations held in Scotland on or around 25th January. This is the anniversary of the birthday of the great Scottish poet Robert Burns.

Level

Intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Brainstorm what your students know about Scotland and Scottish food and drink in particular. Ask if any of them have ever heard of haggis, then describe what it is. Alternatively, you could discuss other kinds of food and drink that the students don't, or wouldn't, enjoy!
2. Divide the class into pairs and give each pair a copy of Worksheet A: one student receives Part 1, the other Part 2. Give them at least five minutes to read their part, and encourage them to look up any new vocabulary. Make it clear that you are going to take their pieces of paper away from them when the time is up, and that therefore it is important that they try to remember as much of the texts as possible.
3. Collect the pieces of paper and give each pair one copy of Worksheet B. Give them ten minutes to work together to complete the crossword. To refresh the students' memories you could perhaps provide them with a few of the letters from the missing words.
4. When the time is up, give out Worksheet A again so that the students can check any questions they weren't able to answer.
5. Check answers in open class.

Answers

1. boil 2. rare 3. lungs 4. competition 5. traditional 6. supermarkets 7. fried
8. sausage

If all the gaps have been filled correctly, *bagpipes* should read from top to bottom.

6. Keeping the students in their pairs, give them each a copy of Worksheet C. Tell them the text on the worksheet contains fifteen mistakes, and it is their job to work together in order to find and correct them.

Allow at least ten minutes for this task, and encourage students to spend the first few minutes reading through the text, and looking up any new vocabulary, before they start concentrating on finding the mistakes.

Tell the students that some of the mistakes are grammatical while others are due to the wrong choice of word, and that in a couple of cases there is more than one way of correcting them. Also point out that none of the corrections require students to write more than one word.

7. Check answers in open class by referring to Worksheet D, which contains the corrected text with all the changes highlighted, then give every student a copy of Worksheet D.

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_4620000/newsid_4627700/4627718.stm

A text on Burns Night from BBC *Newsround*, written by a Scottish teenager. Refers to haggis, and also has a photograph of the famous dish. Suitable for intermediate level.

http://www.virtualscotland.co.uk/scottish_recipes/scottish_recipe_004.htm

Haggis recipe from the Virtual Scotland website. Intermediate and above.

http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,,1093885,00.html

Short, amusing article from the *Guardian* (2003) online newspaper regarding the common misconception among some tourists that the haggis is a wild animal. Intermediate and above.