

Lesson 2 Curry Travels around the World

(Part 1)

Hello there! // Today I'm going to talk about curry. // When you hear the word "curry," / what country do you think of? // Yes, India! // Many of you know / that India is the home of curry. // However, / do you know / that curry is not the name of the dish / in India? //

Of course, / there are many dishes / similar to curry / in India. // For example, / people often stew meat or vegetables / with various spices. // However, / they do not call such dishes "curry." // A long time ago, / the British people began to use the word "curry" / to explain such Indian dishes. // It comes from the word "kari."// It means a sauce or soup / in Tamil. //

(Part 2)

In the past, / India was a British colony. // I think / you have learned about it / in world history class. // In 1772, / Warren Hastings, / a clerk in the East India Company, / brought back rice and many spices / from India. // He had often eaten curry with rice / in India, / so he wanted to eat it / in the UK, too. // Other people in the UK / tried it and liked it. // After that, / curry gradually became popular / in the UK. //

At the beginning / of the 19th century, / the first curry powder appeared. // Until then, / people needed to work hard / to mix the many spices / to make curry. // With the help of curry powder, / people were able to make curry more easily / and its popularity spread across the UK. // Also, / the British began to make curry thicker / with flour. // They used a recipe for stew, / a traditional British food, / to change curry / to their own taste. //

(Part 3)

British curry later sailed across the sea / and came to Japan. // Early in the Meiji era, / Japanese people first imported curry powder / and started to make curry. // At that time, / curry was an expensive dish. // For the price of a plate of "curry and rice,"

/ a person could eat eight bowls of soba. // Also, / in those days, / curry was a little strange. // Surprisingly, / people put long green onions / and frog meat / in it! //

Since the late Meiji era, / curry has been popular / all over Japan. // Some people say / it is because the Japanese military adopted curry / as a food for its soldiers. // Curry was an ideal food for soldiers / because they could make it / in large amounts / and serve it to many soldiers / at once. // When the soldiers went back home, / they took the recipe for curry / with them. // Because of this, / curry became popular / in many parts of Japan. //

(Part 4)

With the spread of curry, / a lot of new curry-based foods / appeared in Japan. // For example, / a Japanese restaurant invented curry-*udon* / around 1904. // A Japanese bakery / started to sell curry-*pan*, / curry-filled bread, / in 1927. // Later, / curry-flavored snacks also appeared. // You have probably eaten some of them. // Among all these curry-based foods, / curry roux and curry in a pouch / were the most successful. // These foods were exported to countries / such as China, / South Korea, / and the US. // Now curry in a pouch is eaten / even in the International Space Station / (ISS). //

Curry was born in India. // Later, / people in the UK and Japan / started to eat curry. // Now people all over the world / eat it. //

That's all for my speech. // Thank you. // I suppose / you are very hungry now. // Let's go to the cafeteria / and have some curry! //