



Freshly fried pancakes,
rolled up and served with sugar and lemon.
Get them while they're hot!



The world famous Pancake Race in Olney
(Buckinghamshire, England) dates back to 1445.

Weekly English Practice



9th February 2016

English
Coaching
Projects S.Coop.

weeklyenglishpractice.wordpress.com

www.englishcoachingprojects.net Calle San Ignacio de Loyola 15 bajo
info@englishcoachingprojects.net 01001, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Araba-Alava

What is pancake day?

A lot of people look forward to making pancakes at the end of this month, but do you know the significance of this celebration?

pancake: a thin flat pan-fried cake like a crêpe

thereof: of this

fast: to eat very little or stop eating certain foods

absolve: to free from guilt

liturgical: of public worship or ritual

penitential: of regret for doing wrong

race: to run fast

toss: to throw sth into the air

Shrove Tuesday—known in some countries as **Pancake Day**—is the Tuesday in February or March preceding the first day of Lent (Ash Wednesday), and is celebrated in some countries by consuming pancakes. In Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and Ireland it is a common custom to eat pancakes as a meal. In others, especially those where it is called Mardi Gras or some translation **thereof**, this is a carnival day, and also the last day of "fat eating" or "gorging" before the period of Lent, during which many Christians **are known to practice fasting** or give up certain types of luxuries as a form of penance.

This moveable feast is determined by Easter. The expression "Shrove Tuesday" is said to come from the word *shrive*, meaning **absolve**. This special day is important to many Christians, including Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists and Roman Catholics, who make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs they need to repent, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God's help in dealing with.

Being the last day of the **liturgical** season historically known as Shrovetide, before the **penitential** season of Lent, it is popular to indulge in food that you are going to sacrifice for the upcoming forty days. The term Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday", referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season starting on Ash Wednesday. Pancakes are associated with the day preceding Lent

because they were a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the 40 days of Lent. The fasting period emphasised eating plainer food and refraining from food that would give pleasure: in many cultures, this means no meat, dairy products, or eggs.

"Everything can have drama if it's done right. Even a pancake." Julia Child (Chef)

In some places, small tokens are frequently cooked in the pancakes. Children take delight in discovering the objects, which are intended to tell them their future. For example, the person who receives a coin will be wealthy, while finding a nail indicates that they will become or marry a carpenter.

On Pancake Day, "pancake races" are held in villages and towns across the United Kingdom. The tradition **is thought to have originated** in 1445 when a housewife was so busy making pancakes that she forgot the time until she heard the church bells ringing. She **is said to have raced** out of the house to church while still carrying her frying pan and pancake, **tossing** it to prevent it from burning. Today, people with frying pans race through the streets tossing pancakes into the air and catching them in the pan while running.

Adapted from: www.wikipedia.org

"Let's chat about that!"

Write your answers in an email and send them to your ECP coach!

Give reasons for your answers

- How much do you know about pancakes and how to cook them?
- Are there any similar celebrations where you live? Describe what they are like.
- Why do people fast for 40 days?
- What food(s) would you be prepared to give up for Lent?
- Would you give up anything else (not related to food)? Give your reasons.



“iLook, iThink, iSpeak”

Express yourself better!

“YOU LEARN BY DOING.”

Practice with the PASSIVE

Look at page 1 - There are three structures in purple.

- Many Christians **are known to practice fasting**.
- The tradition **is thought to have originated** in 1445.
- She **is said to have raced** out of the house.

There are some similar passive structures below.
Can you fill in the missing words?

Example:

Active: **People believe** that **he** is the hero of the town.

Passive 1: **It's believed** that he is the hero of the town.

Passive 2: **He is believed to be** the hero of the town.

Active: They say (that) the man is a thief.

Passive 1: It's said that the man is a thief.

Passive 2: The man ____ said to be a thief.

Active: We know that he dislikes children.

Passive 1: It's _____ that he dislikes children.

Passive 2: He is known to dislike children.

Active: People claim that he left the country two months ago.

Passive 1: It's claimed that he left the country two months ago.

Passive 2: He is claimed ____ have left the country two months ago.

Active: We think he is waiting there now.

Passive 1: It's thought that he is waiting there now.

Passive 2: ____ is thought to be waiting there now.

Active: People say he was working very hard.

Passive 1: It's said that he was working very hard.

Passive 2: He is said to have _____ working very hard.

“Socialising is learning”

Student Socials

Come and speak English!

Saturday 4th March

Let's get social!



WHERE?

BAR THE BOOK C/NIEVES CANO

WHY?

TO CHAT AND SOCIALISE IN ENGLISH

TO FEEL MORE CONFIDENT

TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!

WHEN?

SATURDAY 4TH MARCH

WHAT TIME?

5PM (AFTER LUNCH/SIESTA)

Active: People expect that the rate of exchange will go down soon.

Passive 1: ____ is expected that the rate of crime will go down soon.

Passive 2: The rate of crime is _____ to go down soon.

Active: They say that a lot of electrical appliances _____ stolen every day.

Passive 1: It's _____ that a lot of electrical appliances are stolen every day.

Passive 2: A lot of electrical appliances are _____ to be stolen every day.

Active: They report that two people were killed in the explosion.

Passive 1: It's reported that two people were killed in the explosion.

Passive 2: Two people are reported to _____ been _____ in the explosion.

Discuss your answers (and any difficulties you have) with your classmates and your ECP coach!