

Sam's Savory World Adventure



Sam is a young boy who loves to travel and eat. He wears a bright white chef's hat and holds a small, colorful globe in his hands. He is ready to see the world and taste every delicious dish he can find.



"Hello! I am Sam," he says. "I have already visited ten countries, and I have a real sweet tooth! I love chocolate, but I also love to explore new flavors. Each country is a different kettle of fish! That means every place is unique and special."



First, Sam goes to Europe. He visits Italy during the famous 'Pizzafest.' "The Italians make the best pizza!" Sam exclaims. "This is the most delicious cheese I have ever tasted." He watches as the chefs toss the dough high into the air.



Next, Sam travels to Asia. He arrives in China just in time for the Dumpling Festival. "Have you ever been to China?"

Sam asks. "I have already eaten some dumplings, but I haven't tried the ones with mushrooms yet. They look so tasty!"



Now, Sam is in Türkiye for the Anchovy Festival. He meets a famous cook named Maksut. "In Türkiye, we love seafood," Maksut says. Sam sees a lot of small fish and a few lemons on the table. Maksut is ready to show Sam a special recipe.



Maksut teaches Sam how to cook. "First, wash the fish," Maksut explains. "Then, marinade them with some oil and lemons. Next, grill them until they are crispy." Sam thinks the grilled fish smell amazing. It is very different from pizza!



After his big trip, Sam meets his friends, Leo and Daisy, at a chocolate shop. "Look at those brownies!" Daisy cries. "They sell like hotcakes!" This means people are buying them very, very fast because they are so popular.



Sam buys a big chocolate cake for everyone. "I have already bought the cake," Sam tells Daisy. "The strawberry on top is the icing on the cake!" This means it is the extra-special part that makes a good thing even better.



Leo looks at the sweets. "We shouldn't eat too much sugar," he says. Sam agrees. "You are right. We need to eat a lot of vegetables to stay healthy. Neither candy nor soda is good for us every day, but a little bit is okay for a treat!"



Sam has had a wonderful adventure across the continents. He has tasted the best food in the world! He looks at his globe and wonders where to go next. "What about you?" Sam asks. "What is the most delicious food in your country?"



Discussion Questions

Question 1: Sam says that "every country is a different kettle of fish." Based on the story, how was Sam's experience in Italy different from his experience in Türkiye?

Question 2: When Sam buys the chocolate cake, he says the strawberry on top is the "icing on the cake." What does this idiom mean in the context of the story, and why is the cake a "treat" rather than an every-day food?





Answer Key



Answer 1: In Italy, Sam visited "Pizzafest," where he focused on the delicious cheese and watched chefs toss dough. In Türkiye, he went to the "Anchovy Festival," where he learned a specific three-step cooking process (wash, marinate, grill) for seafood. This shows that each country has its own unique food traditions and ways of cooking.

Answer 2: "The icing on the cake" means something extra that makes a good situation even better (the cake was already good, but the strawberry made it perfect). Sam explains that cake is a "treat" because while it is okay to have sometimes, the body needs vegetables and less sugar to stay healthy.





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