

Name:

Day One

Fortune Cookies: Really Chinese?

Part 1: Silent read

→ What's the true story behind fortune cookies? Read silently.

Amy Wong and Lin Chen were eating at a Chinese restaurant. At the end of the meal, Amy was surprised when the waiter brought a small plate of cut-up fruit. "Where are the fortune cookies?" Amy asked the waiter. "Oh, I'm sorry," he said, "I brought you fruit instead. I thought you were Chinese!"

Lin explained. She told Amy that in China, no one really eats fortune cookies. At restaurants in China, people expect to be served fruit for dessert. So sometimes waiters in the U.S. automatically serve fruit to Chinese customers instead of fortune cookies.

If fortune cookies are not really Chinese, where are they from? People think the cookies first came from Japan. Similar sweet, folded cookies have always been served there. In California in the early 1900s, Japanese people opened up Chinese restaurants. They started serving fortune cookies as dessert. Then, during World War II, Chinese owners took over many of the restaurants. They kept the popular cookies.

But why are fortune cookies still served at so many Chinese restaurants? People in the U.S. like and expect sweets for dessert. And finding a fortune inside is fun. Now fortune cookies are sometimes sold in China as real American food!

The waiter quickly came back to the table with Amy and Lin's cookies. They broke open the crispy, folded dough. Then they read their fortunes on the little strips of paper inside. Amy's said, "The harder you work, the luckier you get." Lin's said, "You have a true friendship."



Day One

// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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83
96
97

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123
136
148
162

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192
203

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233
247
252

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Where did fortune cookies really come from?

Why did fortune cookies catch on and become popular in the U.S.?

Day One

Fortune Cookies: Really Chinese?

Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Amy Wong and Lin Chen were eating / at a Chinese restaurant. // At the end of the meal, / Amy was surprised / when the waiter brought / a small plate of cut-up fruit. // “Where are the fortune cookies?” / Amy asked the waiter. // “Oh, / I’m sorry,” / he said, / “I brought you fruit instead. // I thought you were Chinese!” //

Lin explained. // She told Amy that in China, / no one really eats fortune cookies. // At restaurants in China, / people expect to be served fruit for dessert. // So sometimes / waiters in the U.S. automatically serve fruit to Chinese customers / instead of fortune cookies. //

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But why are fortune cookies still served / at so many Chinese restaurants? // People in the U.S. / like and expect sweets for dessert. // And finding a fortune inside is fun. // Now fortune cookies are sometimes sold / in China as real American food! //

The waiter quickly came back to the table / with Amy and Lin’s cookies. // They broke open the crispy, / folded dough. // Then they read their fortunes / on the little strips of paper inside. // Amy’s said, / “The harder you work, / the luckier you get.” // Lin’s said, / “You have a true friendship.” //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.