

Name: _____ Class: _____ ()

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Hong Kong street food a new trend in Britain, with local twists – think egg waffles with gelato and French toast with Nutella

It's a sunny afternoon and the **aroma** of egg waffles and curried fish balls **wafts** through the **bustling** streets as pedestrians **sink** their teeth **into** delicious golden egg tarts. Sounds like a normal day in Hong Kong? You may be surprised, but such scenes are now also seen in the UK.

These **humble** Hong Kong street food **staples** are some of the latest, yet least expected exports from the city. Bubblewrap in London and Pop Up Wok in Newcastle, both very young businesses, are the driving forces behind this new trend.

Located in Chinatown, London, Bubblewrap is a shop specialising in Hong Kong's favourite street food – egg waffles. Sunny Wu, the 26-year-old co-owner of the establishment, says, "Bubblewrap began as a business project by a group of Imperial College students in 2015. When group member Yu Liu, who lives in Hong Kong, suggested egg waffles, the group was not convinced that Londoners were going to buy into it." Eventually they saw it as a practical business model and decided to go ahead.

The original aim was to make their waffles as traditionally Hong Kong as possible, but they decided they needed to make it not so filling and also to add toppings to cater to British tastes, which have proven to be very successful.

Bubblewrap got its **catchy** and memorable name from one of the group members who grew up in London and wasn't familiar with egg waffles. The name was a perfect touch to the business because it instantly communicates what it looks like to customers who have no idea what it is. It marked a **milestone** in the initial stages of the business.

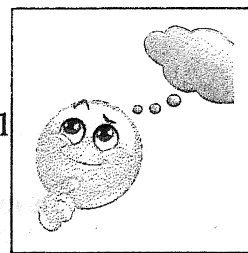
Another Hong Kong-style snack business, Pop Up Wok (PUW), was established in July 2017. Open three days a week in Newcastle, **founders** Molly Chan and Lucia Tsoi are determined to bring the Hong Kong street food culture to the UK. The two 28-year-olds began their journeys in Newcastle as undergraduate students in 2013.

PUW sells mainly Hong Kong snacks such as curried fish balls and chee cheong fun (rice flour rolls). "We started making Hong Kong food partly because we were homesick, partly because we **craved** hot food in the very cold weather, as good, quick, and hot bites were nowhere to be found whenever we wanted some here," Tsoi says. With encouragement from friends and the university's help, Pop Up Wok was born.

Adapted from The South China Morning Post dated 18th Jan, 2018.

Questions to think about:

- Why do you think the businesses mentioned in the article have been successful to date?
- What can you learn from these young entrepreneurs?
- What kind of businesses would you like to found, own or run?
- What are the challenges you can face in setting up and running a business, particularly in the hospitality industry?



I: Vocabulary and understanding meaning: Match the meaning and/or synonym (words with a similar or the same meaning) to the words which have been highlighted in bold in the article.

Column A: Word from text	Letter	Column B: Meaning or synonym
1. aroma (n)		A: feel a powerful or strong need or desire for something
2. waft (v)		B: something that is easily memorable or becomes quickly popular
3. bustling (adj)		C: pass or cause to pass easily or gently through or as if through the air (like a gentle breeze)
4. sink into (phrasal verb)		D: main or important food item in a someone's diet
5. humble (adj)		E: a distinctive, nice smell
6. staple (n)		F: put money or energy into (something); invest something in / eat with enthusiasm
7. catchy (adj)		G: a person who starts a business, organisation or institution
8. milestone (n)		H: modest, not big or grand
9. founder(s) (n)		I: marks an important stage in the development of something / the start of something big
10. crave(d) (v)		J: lively, busy

II: Usage of vocabulary: Choose the most appropriate word from the table above to fill in the missing words of the sentences below making sure your answers are grammatically correct.

- The song went immediately to number one in the pop charts because of its _____ tune. Everyone seemed to be singing it.
- On market days, the sleepy town suddenly becomes _____ with life as people from near and far come to browse the stalls.
- The lovely (a) _____ of coffee beans brewing and (b) _____ through the air from the nearby café made me suddenly (c) _____ a cup of coffee. I just had to stop and have a cup.
- Despite being wealthy and famous now, Chow Yun Fat, the actor came from _____ beginnings. His family were not very well off.
- Facebook (a) _____ by Mark Zuckerberg along with fellow Harvard College students and roommates, Eduardo Saverin, Andrew McCollum, Dustin Moskovitz, and Chris Hughes. They started the company. It marked a (b) _____ in the development of social media, a big turning point.
- Rice is the _____ food of many Asian countries.
- Unfortunately, many people lost a fortune after having _____ their money _____ the business which turned out to be a white elephant, and as a result, they had to declare bankruptcy.

Challenge of the week: Food, food, glorious food puzzle

ENGLISH CORNER CAFÉ IS ALWAYS OPEN ON A TUESDAY FOR DRINKS, SNACKS, CONVERSATION & GAMES

See Ms Roberts for prizes if you know the answers!