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Level 5 – 9th November 2026

Chef fired for refusing to put pineapple on pizza

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-5.html

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-5.html

An Italian chef in Australia has been fired for refusing to put pineapple on pizzas. He tried to fight his dismissal and get his job back, but he failed. The chef said topping pizzas with the tropical fruit was an "insult to his culture". He claimed he was sacked from a restaurant after repeatedly refusing to make pineapple and ham pizzas for diners. His employer stated that the chef's refusal was one of several workplace issues. The chef's application to get his job back failed because he submitted it after the deadline. The chef has since found a job at another Italian restaurant.

The question of whether pineapple belongs on a pizza divides public opinion. Pizza lovers are shocked at the idea, but pineapple on pizza is on menus in many countries. The Hawaiian pizza was reportedly created in Canada in 1962 after a chef used ham and pineapple as toppings. The restaurant owner in Australia admitted that while pineapple was not his "absolute favourite" topping, he would not "turn his nose up at it". Many restaurant owners say customers should be free to enjoy whatever toppings they choose. Hawaiian pizza is very popular, but many Italians dislike the idea of it.

Sources: https://www.**nine.com.au**/australia-news/italian-chef-sacked-for-refusing-to-put-pineapple-on-pizza-20261106-p61bwv.html
https://www.**theguardian.com**/food/2026/nov/05/italian-chef-sacked-refusing-pineapple-on-pizza-australia-fair-work
https://www.**euronews.com**/2026/11/06/an-insult-to-his-culture-italian-chef-loses-job-after-refusing-to-put-pineapple-on-pizza

PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-5.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1. fired for refusing to put	a. get his job back
2. He tried to fight his	b. to his culture
3. topping	c. dismissal
4. tropical fruit was an insult	d. sacked
5. He claimed he was	e. issues
6. make pineapple and ham pizzas	f. pineapple on pizzas
7. one of several workplace	g. pizzas
8. The chef's application to	h. for diners

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1. The question of whether pineapple	a. they choose
2. public	b. at the idea
3. Pizza lovers are shocked	c. owners
4. pineapple on pizza is on menus	d. belongs on a pizza
5. he would not turn his nose	e. the idea of it
6. restaurant	f. up at it
7. free to enjoy whatever toppings	g. opinion
8. many Italians dislike	h. in many countries

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-5.html

An Italian chef in Australia has been (1) _____ to put pineapple on pizzas. He tried to (2) _____ and get his job back, but he failed. The chef said topping pizzas with the tropical fruit was (3) _____ his culture". He claimed he was sacked from a restaurant after (4) _____ make pineapple and ham pizzas for diners. His employer stated that the chef's (5) _____ of several workplace issues. The chef's application to get his job back failed because he submitted it after the deadline. The chef (6) _____ a job at another Italian restaurant.

The question of whether pineapple belongs on a pizza (7) _____. Pizza lovers are shocked at the idea, but pineapple on pizza is (8) _____ many countries. The Hawaiian pizza was (9) _____ Canada in 1962 after a chef used ham and pineapple as toppings. The restaurant owner in Australia admitted that while pineapple was not his "absolute favourite" topping, he would not "turn (10) _____ at it". Many restaurant owners say customers should be (11) _____ whatever toppings they choose. Hawaiian pizza is very popular, but many Italians dislike the (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-5.html

AnItalianchefinAustraliahasbeenfiredforrefusingtoputpineappleonp
izzas.Hetriedtofighthisdismissalandgethisjobback,buthefailed.Thec
hefsaidtoppingpizzaswiththetropicalfruitwasan"insulttohisculture".
Heclaimedhewassackedfromarestaurantafterrepeatedlyrefusingto
makepineappleandhampizzasfordiners.Hisemployerstatedthatthec
hef'srefusalwasoneofseveralworkplaceissues.Thechef'sapplicationt
ogethisjobbackfailedbecausehesubmitteditafterthedeadline.Thech
efhassincefoundajobatanotherItalianrestaurant.Thequestionofwhe
therpineapplebelongsonapizzadividespublicopinion.Pizzaloversares
hockedattheidea,butpineappleonpizzaisonmenusinmanycountries.
TheHawaiianpizzawasreportedlycreatedinCanadain1962afterachef
usedhamandpineappleastoppings.TherestaurantownerinAustraliaa
dmittedthatwhilepineapplewasnothis"absolutefavourite"topping,he
wouldnot"turnhisnoseupatit".Manyrestaurantownerssaycustomers
shouldbefreetoenjoywhatevertoppingstheychoose.Hawaiianpizzais
verypopular,butmanyItaliansdisliketheideaofit.

PINEAPPLE ON PIZZA SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about pineapple on pizza in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261109-pineapple-on-pizza-5.html

Write about **pineapple on pizza** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.