

## FALAFEL

Do you like falafel? If you do, you're not alone. Everywhere in the Middle East\* — and in many other countries around the world — people love to eat falafel. But there are many things that not everyone agrees\* on. For example, not everyone agrees on what falafel is. In Israel, falafel is a pita filled with balls made of chickpeas,\* vegetables, and tahini. In Lebanon and other Arab countries, people eat  
5 large falafel balls on a plate and not in a pita. In Egypt,\* falafel balls are made of fava beans\* and not chickpeas.

Another thing that not everyone agrees on is the origin\* of falafel. It's not clear who invented\* it. Some say that the Egyptians were the first people to eat falafel. Others say that the Syrians invented falafel balls. The Israelis were the first to eat falafel in a pita. That's why today, many people believe  
10 that falafel is an Israeli food. This makes some people in other Middle Eastern countries a little angry. They feel that everyone should know that Israelis didn't invent falafel.

In the 1970s and '80s, Israelis who moved to the USA and Europe brought falafel with them. Soon, falafel became a very popular food. Now, you don't need to visit the Middle East to eat falafel. You can find falafel in many big cities around the world, including New York, Amsterdam, Paris, and  
15 Berlin.

\*the Middle East = מזרח התיכון

\*Egypt = מצרים

\*invented = המציא

\*agrees = מסכי

\*fava beans = פול מצרי

\*chickpeas = חמוס

\*origin = מקור



Guilt Free Unseens— Sampler #1

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## QUESTIONS

A. Complete the fact file about falafel.

### Facts about Falafel

1. What falafel balls are made of:
  - a. In Israel: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. In Egypt: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who invented falafel balls: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who invented falafel in a pita: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who brought falafel to different countries: \_\_\_\_\_

B. True or false?

- \_\_\_ 1. All the people in the Middle East eat falafel the same\* way.\*
- \_\_\_ 2. Israelis were the first people to eat falafel.
- \_\_\_ 3. Today, everyone knows that falafel is an Arab food.
- \_\_\_ 4. Falafel was popular in big cities around the world more than a hundred years ago.
- \_\_\_ 5. People eat falafel in many countries around the world.

\*the same = באותה ה-

\*way = צורה

C. Answer the questions.

1. Why are some people in the Middle East angry? (lines 7–11) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you like falafel? If you do, how do you eat it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_