

Intermediate Listening Comprehension Course
Voice of America - Special English Program



Popcorn

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start

POPcorn

- Vocabulary Work
- Listening: Part 1
- Listening: Part 2
- Translation
- Questions for Discussion

Popcorn

- Vocabulary Work
- Listening: Part 1
- Listening: Part 2
- Translation
- Questions for Discussion

Click on the correct English equivalent
(*щелкните левой кнопкой мыши на
английском эквиваленте*)

ПОЧАТОК

popcorn –

kernel –

harvest –

shell –

ear –

discover –

explorer –

liquid food –

settle

damaged kernels –

Click on the correct English equivalent
(*щелкните левой кнопкой мыши на
английском эквиваленте*)

заселиться

popcorn –

kernel –

harvest –

shell –

ear –

початок

discover –

explorer –

liquid food –

settle –

damaged kernels –

Click on the correct English equivalent

зерно

popcorn —

kernel —

harvest —

shell —

ear —

discover —

explorer —

liquid food —

settle —

damaged kernels —

початок

заселиться

Click on the correct English equivalent

повреждённые зёрна

popcorn

—

kernel

—

зерно

harvest

—

shell

—

ear

—

початок

discover

—

explorer

—

liquid food

—

settle

—

заселиться

damaged kernels

—

Click on the correct English equivalent

скорлупа, оболочка

popcorn

kernel

harvest

shell

ear

discover

explorer

liquid food

settle

damaged kernels

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

зерно

початок

заселиться

повреждённые зёрна

Click on the correct English equivalent

обнаружить

popcorn

—

kernel

—

зерно

harvest

—

shell

—

скорлупа, оболочка

ear

—

початок

discover

—

explorer

—

liquid food

—

settle

—

заселиться

damaged kernels

—

повреждённые зёрна

Click on the correct English equivalent

жидкая пища

popcorn

kernel

harvest

shell

ear

discover

explorer

liquid food

settle

damaged kernels

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

зерно

скорлупа, оболочка

початок

обнаружить

заселиться

повреждённые зёрна

Click on the correct English equivalent

ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬ

<u>popcorn</u>	—	
kernel	—	зерно
<u>harvest</u>	—	
shell	—	скорлупа, оболочка
ear	—	початок
discover	—	обнаружить
<u>explorer</u>	—	
liquid food	—	жидкая пища
settle	—	заселиться
damaged kernels	—	повреждённые зёрна

Click on the correct English equivalent

урожай

popcorn

—

kernel

—

зерно

harvest

—

shell

—

скорлупа, оболочка

ear

—

початок

discover

—

обнаружить

explorer

—

исследователь

liquid food

—

жидкая пища

settle

—

заселиться

damaged kernels

—

повреждённые зёрна

Click on the correct English equivalent

попкорн

popcorn

—

kernel

—

зерно

harvest

—

урожай

shell

—

скорлупа, оболочка

ear

—

початок

discover

—

обнаружить

explorer

—

исследователь

liquid food

—

жидкая пища

settle

—

заселиться

damaged kernels

—

повреждённые зёрна

Super !

popcorn	—	попкорн
kernel	—	зерно
harvest	—	урожай
shell	—	скорлупа
ear	—	початок
discover	—	обнаружить
explorer	—	исследователь
liquid food	—	жидкая пища
settle	—	заселиться
damaged kernels	—	повреждённые зёрна

Read about how popcorn can be made.

A popcorn kernel has an extremely hard hull and hard shell, and within there is a mass of moist, starchy, white endosperm. The moisture is optimally about 13.5 percent. When such kernels are heated to about 400 F (about 200 C), the moisture in the starch turns into steam and builds up pressure until the kernel explodes inside out into a white irregular mass, about 20 to 40 times the original size.



The Indians believed that tiny spirits lived inside each kernel of popcorn. Heating their home made the little spirits angry -- so angry that they literally exploded with rage bursting out of their homes into a puff of smoke. Although the Indians' version is more colorful, we now know that the 'pop' really comes from a miniscule drop of water sealed inside the soft starch which is surrounded by the kernel's hard shell. As the kernel is heated, the water expands causing pressure on the starch. As the pressure builds, the starch expands, and then ultimately explodes, releasing steam, and turning the kernel inside out. Long live popcorn!

Practice the new words

- ▶ I'm going to make popcorn. – Really, but I think these _____ are too big for popcorn, it's just corn.

▶ shells

▶ kernels

▶ pans

▶ small pieces

Practice the new words

- ▶ I'm going to make popcorn. – Really, but I think these kernels are too big for popcorn, it's just corn.

- ▶ shells

- ▶ kernels

- ▶ pans

- ▶ small pieces

Practice the new words

Some mollusks have _____ to protect themselves from raptorial fish.

■ teeth

■ a separator

■ a shell

■ an ear

Practice the new words

Some mollusks have a shell to protect themselves from raptorial fish.

- teeth
- a separator
- a shell
- an ear

Practice the new words

The corn is already in the _____.

ear

harvesting

shell

New Mexico

Practice the new words

The corn is already in the ear.

ear

harvesting

shell

New Mexico

Practice the new words

If the corn is in the ear already, it's high time for _____.

- liquid food
- popcorn
- harvesting
- delaying the harvest

Practice the new words

If the corn is in the ear already, it's high time for harvesting.

- liquid food
- popcorn
- harvesting
- delaying the harvest

Practice the new words

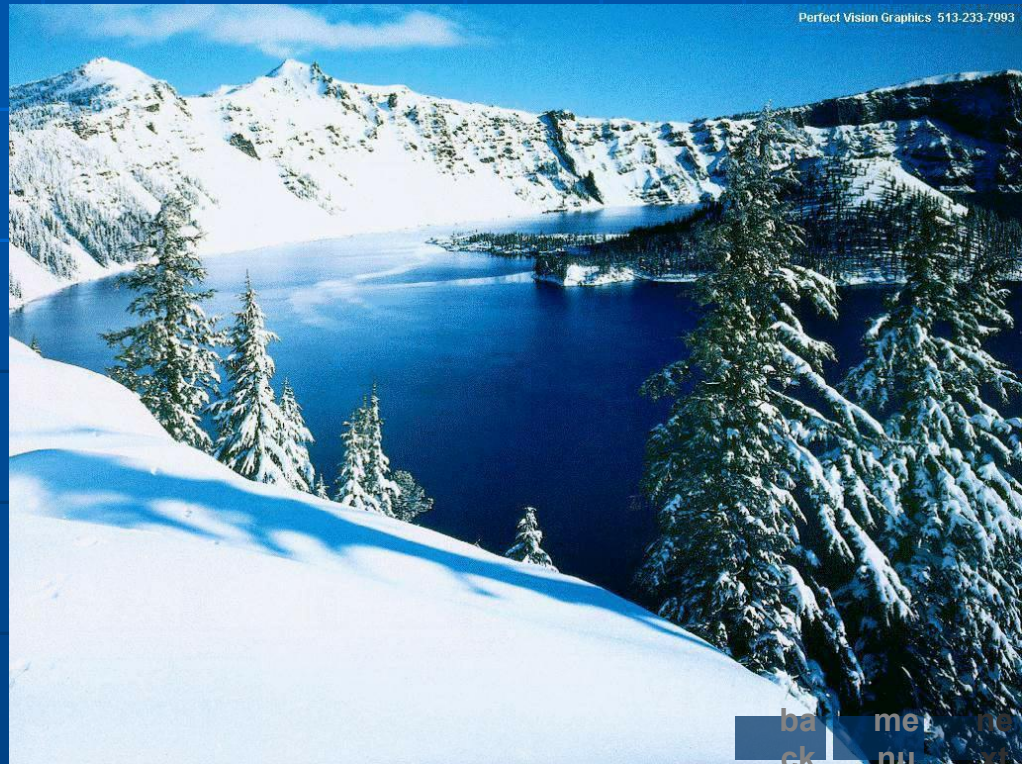
It took us two days to get to the river we had been looking for. But when we reached the place, we _____ that it was a small lake.

■ discovered

■ settled

■ explored

■ expanded



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Practice the new words

It took us two days to get to the river we had been looking for. But when we reached the place, we discovered that it was a small lake.

■ discovered

■ settled

■ explored

■ expanded

Practice the new words

The doctor let me eat only _____ so that I could recover as soon as possible.

popcorn

shells

liquid food

meat

Practice the new words

The doctor let me eat only liquid food so that I could recover as soon as possible.

popcorn

shells

liquid food

meat

Practice the new words

The main goal of the king was to _____ new lands .

▶ store

▶ develop

▶ settle

▶ delay



Practice the new words

The main goal of the king was to settle new lands .

▶ store

▶ develop

▶ settle

▶ delay

Practice the new words

It's getting colder every day. We must gather the _____ until it starts snowing.

◆ kernels

◆ harvest

◆ explorers

◆ crowds

Practice the new words

It's getting colder every day. We must gather the harvest until it starts snowing.

◆ kernels

◆ harvest

◆ explorers

◆ crowds

Practice the new words

The corn is of low quality – there are a lot of _____ in the tin.

▪ damaged kernels

▪ water

▪ liquid food

▪ popcorn

Fabulous!

The corn is of low quality – there are a lot of damaged kernels in the tin.

- damaged kernels
- water
- liquid food
- popcorn

Listening

Listen to the first part of the radio program about popcorn and get ready to answer the following questions:

1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?
2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago?
3. Who was the first to see popcorn?
4. The Iroquois used popcorn to make clay containers, didn't they?

start the sound

Now answer the questions:

- 1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?

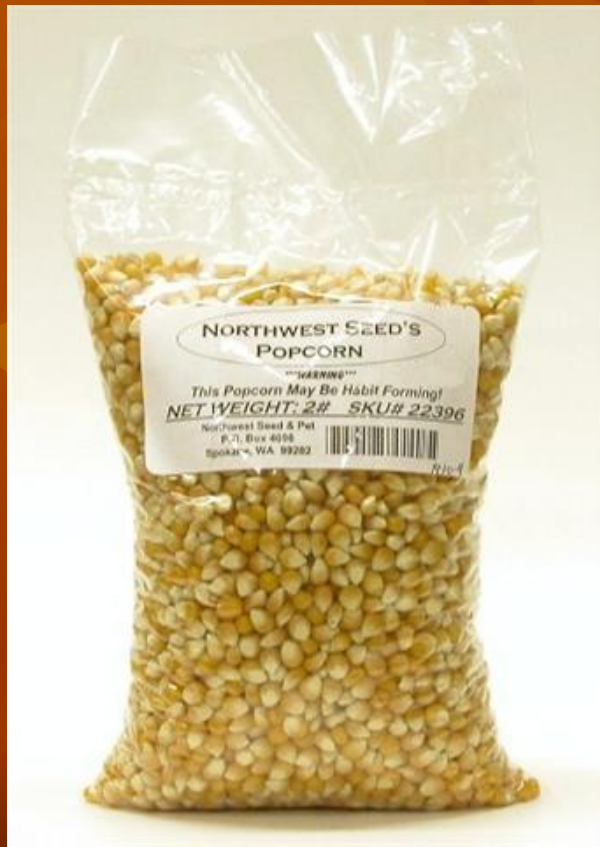


[Click to see the answer](#)

Now answer the questions:

- 1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .



Now answer the questions:

- 1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .

- 2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago ?



[Click to see the answer](#)

Now answer the questions:

- 1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .

- 2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago ?

Popcorn was developed in North and South America.

Now answer the questions:

- 1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .

- 2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago ?

Popcorn was developed in North and South America.

- 3. Who was the first to see popcorn ?

[Click to see the answer](#)

Now answer the questions:

- **1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?**

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .

- **2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago ?**

Popcorn was developed in North and South America.

- **3. Who was the first to see popcorn ?**

Early explorers to the Americas were the first Europeans to see popcorn.

Now answer the questions:

- **1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?**

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .

- **2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago ?**

Popcorn was developed in North and South America.

- **3. Who was the first to see popcorn ?**

Early explorers to the Americas were the first Europeans to see popcorn.

- **4. The Iroquois used popcorn to make clay containers, didn't they ?**

[Click to see the answer](#)

Now answer the questions:

- **1. What is the difference between popcorn and other kinds of corn?**

Popcorn has smaller pieces or kernels .

- **2. Where was popcorn developed thousands of years ago ?**

Popcorn was developed in North and South America.

- **3. Who was the first to see popcorn ?**

Early explorers to the Americas were the first Europeans to see popcorn.

- **4. The Iroquois used popcorn to make clay containers, didn't they ?**

The Iroquois used popcorn to make a liquid food, or soup.

Listen to the first part of the radio program again and get ready to fill in the gaps:

1. Americans love _____.
2. Popcorn has smaller _____ than other kinds of corn.
3. The kernels have a hard outside _____.
4. When the kernels are heated, the outside shells _____.
5. The soft centers _____ and become filled with air.
6. The resulting popcorn looks like small, white balls of _____.
7. Corn was developed in North and South America _____.
8. The oldest ears of popcorn were discovered in the American state of _____.
9. In Peru, scientists discovered one-thousand-year-old popcorn kernels in a _____.
10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.
11. French explorers saw members of the _____ make popcorn.
12. The Iroquois used popcorn to make a _____.
13. The Europeans who _____ in North America loved popcorn.
14. Some colonial families ate popcorn with _____ for their first meal of the day.

start the sound

Now answer the questions:

1. Americans love ____.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) liquid food



Now answer the questions:

1. Americans love _____.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) liquid food

2. Popcorn has smaller _____ than other kinds of corn.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) pieces

Now answer the questions:

1. Americans love _____.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) liquid food

2. Popcorn has smaller _____ than other kinds of corn.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) pieces

3. The kernels have a hard outside _____.

a) center b) shell c) corn d) ear

Now answer the questions:

1. Americans love _____.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) liquid food

2. Popcorn has smaller _____ than other kinds of corn.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) pieces

3. The kernels have a hard outside _____.

a) center b) shell c) corn d) ear

4. When the kernels are heated, the outside shells _____.

a) store b) burst c) discover d) pick

Now answer the questions:

1. Americans love _____.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) liquid food

2. Popcorn has smaller _____ than other kinds of corn.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) pieces

3. The kernels have a hard outside _____.

a) center b) shell c) corn d) ear

4. When the kernels are heated, the outside shells _____.

a) store b) burst c) discover d) pick

5. The soft centers _____ and become filled with air.

a) expand b) burst c) grow d) soften

Now answer the questions:

1. Americans love _____.

a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) liquid food

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a) popcorn b) kernels c) corn d) pieces

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4. When the kernels are heated, the outside shells _____.

a) store b) burst c) discover d) pick

5. The soft centers _____ and become filled with air.

a) expand b) burst c) grow d) soften

Now answer the questions:

6. The resulting popcorn looks like small, white balls of _____.

a) wood b) snow c) cotton d) wool

Now answer the questions:

6. The resulting popcorn looks like small, white balls of _____.

a) wood b) snow c) cotton d) wool

7. Corn was developed in North and South America _____.

*a) thousands of years ago b) one hundred years ago
c) a long time ago d) recently*

Now answer the questions:

6. The resulting popcorn looks like small, white balls of _____.

a) wood b) snow c) cotton d) wool

7. Corn was developed in North and South America _____.

*a) thousands of years ago b) one hundred years ago
c) a long time ago d) recently*

8. The oldest ears of popcorn were discovered in the American state of _____.

a) California b) Florida c) Georgia d) New Mexico

Now answer the questions:

6. The resulting popcorn looks like small, white balls of _____.

a) wood b) snow c) cotton d) wool

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*a) thousands of years ago b) one hundred years ago
c) a long time ago d) recently*

8. The oldest ears of popcorn were discovered in the American state of _____.

a) California b) Florida c) Georgia d) New Mexico

9. In Peru, scientists discovered one-thousand-year-old popcorn kernels in a/an _____.

a) new area b) human burial area c) human area d) area

Now answer the questions:

6. The resulting popcorn looks like small, white balls of _____.

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a) new area b) human burial area c) human area d) area

Now answer the questions:

10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.

- a) Europeans
- b) Americans
- c) Iroquois native American tribe
- d) Maya tribe

Now answer the questions:

10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.

- a) Europeans b) Americans c) Iroquois native American tribe**
d) some tribe

11. French explorers saw members of the _____ make popcorn.

- a) American tribe b) Americans c) Native tribe d) Iroquois Native American tribe**

Now answer the questions:

10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.

- a) Europeans b) Americans c) Iroquois native American tribe
d) some tribe*

11. French explorers saw members of the _____ make popcorn.

- a) American tribe b) Americans c) Native tribe d) Iroquois Native American tribe*

12. The Iroquois used popcorn to make _____. (several options are possible)

- a) liquid food b) soup c) cotton d) corn*

Now answer the questions:

10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.

- a) Europeans b) Americans c) Iroquois native American tribe
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12. The Iroquois used popcorn to make _____.

- a) liquid food b) soup c) cotton d) corn*

13. The Europeans who _____ in North America loved popcorn.

- a) stored b) developed c) settled d) explored*

Now answer the questions:

10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.

- a) Europeans b) Americans c) Iroquois native American tribe
d) some tribe**

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12. The Iroquois used popcorn to make a _____.

- a) liquid food b) soup c) cotton d) corn**

13. The Europeans who _____ in North America loved popcorn.

- a) stored b) developed c) settled d) explored**

14. Some colonial families ate popcorn with _____ for their first meal of the day.

- a) sugar and milk b) just milk c) bread d) sugar milk**

That's Great !

10. Early explorers to the Americas were the first _____ to see popcorn.

- a) Europeans b) Americans c) Iroquois native American tribe**
d) some tribe

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- a) sugar and milk b) just milk c) bread d) sugar milk**

Read the script of part one and choose the correct form of the verbs

Americans (love Americans (love, have been loving Americans (love, have been loving, have loved) popcorn. They (are eating, eat, were eating) it at home, at sports events, and in movie theaters. Popcorn (has, have, had) smaller pieces or kernels than other kinds of corn. The kernels (has, have) a hard outside shell and a soft center. When the kernels (heat, are heated, were heated), the outside shells burst. The soft centers (expand, are expanded, expands) and (becomes, become) filled with air. The resulting popcorn (are looked, looks, is looking for) like small, white balls of cotton.

Corn (is growing, grow, grows) on the parts of the plant commonly called “ears.” Corn, including popcorn, (is developed, was developed, developed) in North and South America thousands of years ago. The oldest ears of popcorn (discovered, are discovering, were discovered) in the American state of New Mexico. They (reported, were reported) to be more than five-thousand years old. In Peru, scientists (discover, are discovering, discovered) one-thousand-year-old popcorn kernels in a human burial area.

Early explorers to the Americas (has been, were, being) the first Europeans to see popcorn. 400 years ago, French explorers (have seen, saw, see) members of the Iroquois Native American tribe (to make, make) popcorn with heated sand in a clay container. They said the Iroquois (use, were using, used) popcorn to make a liquid food, or soup.

The Europeans who (are settling, settles, settled) in North America loved popcorn. Some colonial families ate popcorn with sugar and milk for their first meal of the day.

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Americans (love, have been loving, have loved) popcorn. They (are eating, have been loving, have loved) popcorn. They (are eating, eat, have been loving, have loved) popcorn. They (are eating, eat, were eating) it at home, at sports events, and in movie theaters. Popcorn (has, have, had) smaller pieces or kernels than other kinds of corn. The kernels (has, have) a hard outside shell and a soft center. When the kernels (heat, are heated, were heated), the outside shells burst. The soft centers (expand, are expanded, expands) and (becomes, become) filled with air. The resulting popcorn (are looked, looks, is looking for) like small, white balls of cotton.

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The Europeans who (are settling, settles, settled) in North America loved popcorn. Some colonial families ate popcorn with sugar and milk for their first meal of the day.

Read the script of part one and choose the correct form of the verbs

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Before you hear the second part of the report, try to guess whether the following statements are true or false:

1. In the United States, popcorn became very popular during the second part of the eighteenth century.
2. Today, the United States produces almost all of the world's popcorn.
3. It doesn't matter when to harvest popcorn.
4. American farmers never use machines to pick the ears of corn from the plants.
5. After picking, the corn mustn't be dried.
6. There are different ways to dry and store popcorn.
7. Growers prefer only natural air-drying.
8. Sometimes large machines are used to dry popcorn.
9. Damaged kernels are the best to make popcorn.
10. The kernels are sent through machines that clean them, and the popcorn is prepared to be sent to stores.

Now listen to the second part of the program

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start the sound

Determine whether the following statements are true or false:

1. In the United States, popcorn became very popular during the second part of the eighteenth century.

true false

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7. Growers prefer only natural air-drying.

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9. Damaged kernels are the best to make popcorn.
10. The kernels are sent through machines that clean them, and the popcorn is prepared to be sent to stores.

true false

Read the script of part two and fill in the gaps

In the United States, popcorn became very popular _____. Large and small businesses sold popcorn wherever crowds gathered.

damaged kernels or other material

popcorn which is ready for eating

to harvest popcorn

during the first part of the twentieth century

store popcorn for future use

to pick the ears of corn from the plants

falling down or becoming too wet



Read the script of part two and fill in the gaps

In the United States, popcorn became very popular during the first part of the twentieth century. Large and small businesses sold popcorn wherever crowds gathered.

Today, the United States produces almost all of the world's popcorn. Farmers must choose the right time _____.

damaged kernels or other material

popcorn which is ready for eating

to harvest popcorn

store popcorn for future use

to pick the ears of corn from the plants

falling down or becoming too wet



Read the script of part two and fill in the gaps

In the United States, popcorn became very popular during the first part of the twentieth century. Large and small businesses sold popcorn wherever crowds gathered.

Today, the United States produces almost all of the world's popcorn. Farmers must choose the right time to harvest popcorn. It is best to delay harvesting until the corn is fully developed. However, farmers also must guard against corn plants _____.

damaged kernels or other material
popcorn which is ready for eating
store popcorn for future use
to pick the ears of corn from the plants
falling down or becoming too wet



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damaged kernels or other material
popcorn which is ready for eating
store popcorn for future use
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Today, the United States produces almost all of the world's popcorn. Farmers must choose the right time to harvest popcorn. It is best to delay harvesting until the corn is fully developed. However, farmers also must guard against corn plants falling down or becoming too wet. American farmers use machines to pick the ears of corn from the plants . After picking, the corn must be dried. There are different ways to dry and _____ . Some growers like natural air-drying. Others use large machines.

damaged kernels or other material
popcorn which is ready for eating
store popcorn for future use



Read the script of part two and fill in the gaps

In the United States, popcorn became very popular during the first part of the twentieth century. Large and small businesses sold popcorn wherever crowds gathered.

Today, the United States produces almost all of the world's popcorn. Farmers must choose the right time to harvest popcorn. It is best to delay harvesting until the corn is fully developed. However, farmers also must guard against corn plants falling down or becoming too wet. American farmers use machines to pick the ears of corn from the plants. After picking, the corn must be dried. There are different ways to dry and store popcorn for future use. Some growers like natural air-drying. Others use large machines.

After drying, the corn is taken to a processing center. Machines remove the kernels from the ears. Separators and other equipment remove _____.
Then, the kernels are sent through machines that clean them. After that, the popcorn is prepared to be sent to stores.

damaged kernels or other material
popcorn which is ready for eating

You may listen to this part again

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start the sound

Translate into English

Кукуруза так же имеет название индейская кукуруза или маис.

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Corn is also called Indian corn, or Maize.

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Кукуруза так же имеет название индейская кукуруза или маис. В сельском хозяйстве кукуруза является съедобным зерном. Впервые её выращивали индейцы на высокогорьях Мексики.

Corn is also called Indian corn, or Maize. In agriculture, corn is edible grain.

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Corn is also called Indian corn, or Maize. In agriculture, corn is edible grain. First it was grown by Indians in the highlands of Mexico.

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Corn is also called Indian corn, or Maize. In agriculture, corn is edible grain. First it was grown by Indians in the highlands of Mexico. In the south area of the English settlement the Indians grew a soft-kernelled corn.

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Corn is also called Indian corn, or Maize. In agriculture, corn is edible grain. First it was grown by Indians in the highlands of Mexico. In the south area of the English settlement the Indians grew a soft-kernelled corn. Since it was brought to Europe by Columbus and other explorers, corn has spread to all areas of the world suitable for its cultivation.

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Indians taught colonists to grow corn.

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Кукуруза используется как корм для скота, пища для человека и как сырьё в промышленности.

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Indians taught colonists to grow corn. These grains included some varieties of yellow corn.

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Indians taught colonists to grow corn. These grains included some varieties of yellow corn. Corn is used as livestock feed, food for humans, and raw material in industry.

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Nevertheless, it is major food in many parts of the world.

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Кукуруза имеет долгую историю использования в народном искусстве. Люди использовали кукурузные початки, чтобы делать амулеты и кукол.

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Corn also has a long history of use in the folk arts.

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Corn also has a long history of use in the folk arts. People used corn ears to make amulets and dolls.

Get ready to discuss the following questions in class:

1. Did you get any new information from the report?
2. What did you like most?
3. Are you interested in agriculture and growing plants?
4. Do you think that popcorn is good for your health?
5. How often do you eat popcorn?
6. What is the difference between popcorn and boiled corn? What is better, in your opinion?



*This is the end of the
self-study lesson.*

Thank you.

Guess a number



Not quite!



Not exactly!

