

TRANSLATION ACES NEWS

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◆ HO HO HOLIDAYS at TRANSLATION ACES! ◆



HOLIDAY-ASSOCIATED WORDS WE LOVE

GINGERLY



Etymologists take a *gingerly* approach to assigning a particular origin to this word; it may indeed have come from the name of the spice, or may be related to *gensor*, an Old French word for *delicate*, since in 16th-Century England, *gingerly* often referred to dancing or walking daintily. In the 17th C., it changed to refer to movements that cautiously avoided causing noise or injury as well as to a cautious manner in handling or presenting ideas. Use it as an adverb, as you may want to taste the next holiday food items (see below) *gingerly!*



NUTTY AS A ->

It's crazy as can be, but if you're **nutty** as a fruitcake, how **nutty** that is depends on your recipe, of course, and the fruit likely will not include bananas -- another synonym for crazy. The adjective '**nutty**' was first noted in 1821 as a synonym for 'insane,' and the similarity to fruitcake first appeared in 1935.



EGG NOG



The origins, etymology and ingredients used to make the original **egg nog** drink are debatable. It may have originated in England or simply developed from posset, a medieval European drink made with hot milk. **Noggin** was a Middle-English term for a small wooden mug used to serve alcohol. The British drink was also called an *Egg Flip*, from flipping or rapidly pouring the liquid from one pitcher to another to mix it. The Eggnog Riot of 1826 at the US Military Academy occurred when whiskey was smuggled into the barracks to make **egg nog** for a Christmas party, resulting in the court martial of 20 cadets and 1 enlisted soldier!

LATKES

Potato **latkes** are shallow-fried pancakes made from grated potato, flour, egg and sometimes a little onion -- Mmm. Associated with cuisines of many European and Middle Eastern century-old traditions besides Jewish, especially during Chanukah, but the history of **latkes** includes Austrian (*Kartoffelpuffer* or *Erdäpfelpuffer*), Belarusian (as *дранікі draniki*), Czech (*bramborák* or *cmunda*), German (*Kartoffelpuffer* or *Reibekuchen*), Hungarian (*astócsni*, etc.), Hebrew: *לביבה levivah*), Latvian (*kartupeļu pankūkas*), Lithuanian (*bulviniai blynai*), Luxembourg (*Gromperekichelcher*), Polish (*placki ziemniaczane*), Russian (*draniki*, *драники*), Slovak (*zemiakové placky*, *haruľa* or *nálečníky*), Ukrainian (*deruny*) and any other cuisines which have adopted similar dishes.



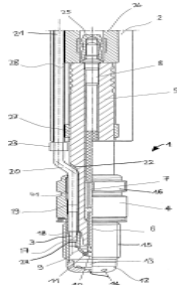
◆ THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHT ◆

We recently translated:

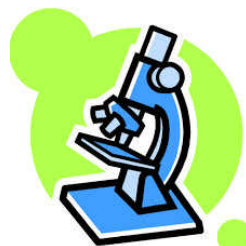
Parent info sheets into Chinese & Spanish for a symphony school's music students



Automotive parts descriptions from German and Japanese for patent attorneys



Medical lab test results in Greek for patient evaluation



FEATURE ◆ Lingua Quiz!

MIX AND MATCH holiday season street-market foods:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Bramborák | (a) Athens |
| 2. Marrons | (b) Brno |
| 3. Glögg | (c) Vienna |
| 4. Glühwein | (d) Stockholm |
| 5. Vin chaud | (e) Prague |
| 6. Kourabiesdes | (f) Montreal |
| 7. Vanočka | (g) Paris |

MULTIPLE CHOICE: How's your menu literacy?

- WHICH IS CORRECT?
(a) Caesar salad (b) Seize her dressing (c) Ceasar salad
- WHICH IS CORRECT?
(a) Au juice (b) Au jus (c) Auxjoux
- WHICH IS CORRECT?
(a) Omelette (b) Omlette (c) Ohmlet
- WHICH IS CORRECT?
(a) Prix fixe (b) Prefixed (d) Grand prix



ANSWERS:

MIX AND MATCH
1. = (e); 2. = (g); 3. = (d); 4. = (c); 5. = (f); 6. = (a); 7. = (b).
MULTIPLE CHOICE
1. = (a); 2. = (b); 3. = (a); 4. = (a).