



Student/Classroom: _____ Examiner: _____ Assessment Date: _____

Chopsticks: A Chinese Invention 507

Sopris West Six Minute Solutions Passage

Chopsticks were invented in China more than 5,000 years ago. Long ago, food was chopped into **(little)** pieces so it would cook faster. **(The)** faster food cooked, the more fuel **(it)** would save. Since food was eaten **(in)** small pieces, there was no need **(for)** knives. Rather, chopsticks were used to **(move)** food from the plate to the **(mouth)**. Confucius was a Chinese philosopher. He **(was)** a vegetarian. It is believed that **(Confucius)** did not like knives. Knives reminded **(him)** of the slaughterhouse. He favored chopsticks. **(By)** A.D.500, the use of chopsticks **(had)** spread to other countries. The people **(in)** present day Vietnam, Korea, and Japan, **(as)** well as China, use chopsticks today.

(Chinese) chopsticks are about 9 or 10 inches long. **(They)** are square at the top, have **(a)** blunt end, and are thinner on **(the)** bottom. The Chinese call them kuai-ai. **(This)** means "quick little fellows." Chopsticks have **(been)** made of many materials. Bamboo is **(a)** popular choice since it is available, **(and)** inexpensive. Bamboo is also heat resistant. **(Other)** types of wood such as sandalwood, **(cedar)**, and teak have also been used. **(Long)** ago, rich people had chopsticks made **(from)** jade, gold, or silver. In the **(days)** of the Chinese dynasty, silver chopsticks **(were)** used. People believed that silver would **(turn)** black if it touched poisoned food. **(We)** know now that silver will not **(react)** to poison. It sometimes changes color **(if)** it touches rotten eggs, garlic, or **(onions)**.



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Chopsticks were invented in China more than 5,000 years ago. Long ago, food was chopped into **(confuse, little, gun)** pieces so it would cook faster. **(Unusual, Reach, The)** faster food cooked, the more fuel **(it, change, fetch)** would save. Since food was eaten **(drank, in, deep)** small pieces, there was no need **(nerve, for, circle)** knives. Rather, chopsticks were used to **(move, release, monkey)** food from the plate to the **(concerned, needle, mouth)**. Confucius was a Chinese philosopher. He **(she, present, was)** a vegetarian. It is believed that **(upon, Confucius, correctly)** did not like knives. Knives reminded **(advertisement, lip, him)** of the slaughterhouse. He favored chopsticks. **(By, Wonderful, Add)** A.D.500, the use of chopsticks **(growth, awake, had)** spread to other countries. The people **(in, smoothly, curious)** present day Vietnam, Korea, and Japan, **(rubbery, side, as)** well as China, use chopsticks today.

(Chinese, Amongst, Respect) chopsticks are about 9 or 10 inches long. **(They, A, Morning)** are square at the top, have **(a, badly, under)** blunt end, and are thinner on **(the, knife, sense)** bottom. The Chinese call them kuai-ai. **(This, Curious, Mad)** means "quick little fellows." Chopsticks have **(rat, been, sock)** made of many materials. Bamboo is **(communicate, summer, a)** popular choice since it is available, **(expand, observation, and)** inexpensive. Bamboo is also heat resistant. **(Carelessly, Other, Warmly)** types of wood such as sandalwood, **(fiction, cedar, invite)**, and teak have also been used. **(Protect, Entertain, Long)** ago, rich people had chopsticks made **(from, station, bird)** jade, gold, or silver. In the **(politely, quietly, days)** of the Chinese dynasty, silver chopsticks **(were, line, dangerous)** used. People believed that silver would **(knee, calmly, turn)** black if it touched poisoned food. **(But, We, Justly)** know now that silver will not **(react, receive, eaten)** to poison. It sometimes changes color **(if, we, self)** it touches rotten eggs, garlic, or **(onions, even, develop)**.