How old is the food in your fridge? For your next meal, will you be dining on last night's leftovers or munching on moldy meats and fetid vegetables? How can you tell when to throw something out or save it for another day?

As a rule of thumb, you shouldn't keep already prepared meals longer than three or four days. That goes for pretty much all your leftovers, from salads to meatloaf. Remember, just because you put all your excess food in the fridge doesn't mean it won't go bad. Bacteria growth slows in colder temperatures, but it's still there. It's kind of like the difference between speeding down an open highway when traffic is light and driving that same stretch of road during rush hour. The destination is the same regardless of when you make the trek – all that changes is how long it takes you to get there. Since, in this case, the destination is spoiled food, you want to drag it out for as long as possible, so be sure to stick whatever food you won't be eating into the fridge within two hours after it's prepared.

Of course, some foods fester faster than others. Mayonnaise, for example, seems comparatively impervious to bacteria's drive to spoilage with a two-month refrigerated shelf-life after opening. Baby food, on the other hand, can go bad in as little as a day, so be sure to date any half-empty containers you plan on later feeding to your little ones.

To ward off food spoilage, the temperature inside your refrigerator needs to remain between 33 and 40 degrees Fahrenheit (0.5 to 4.4 degrees Celsius). However, not all areas of your fridge are capable of maintaining these temperatures, and the further back you go, the cooler it is, so be sure to keep products like eggs, milk, cheese and leftovers in the back, and leave the warmer front area for things like sodas, water, beer and butter.

Perhaps most alarmingly, the standard sight and smell test that most of us use to determine if food is good or not is woefully inadequate. Many foods, such as mayonnaise, baby food, casseroles and even pizza may be perfectly rotten but could look, smell and even taste fine. So, if in doubt, throw it out! It's much better to forgo a bit of suspicious, but potentially still delicious, chicken noodles than to get food poisoning.

Of course, if you prepared a buffet of delicious foodstuffs only to discover that you're the only one eating, you can always freeze the leftovers. Frozen food lasts much longer than refrigerated meals, so don't be afraid to bag up whatever you won't have time to eat over the next few days and stuff it in the freezer.

Ответьте письменно на следующие вопросы:

1. Why cannot you keep food in the fridge for as long as you like?
2. What is the advisable allocation of food products within the fridge?
3. Is it safe to rely on your smell and taste when deciding whether the food is still edible?

Выразите свое мнение на английском языке (150-200 слов) на тему:

Do you throw away food leftovers easily or do you consider it improper? Why?
Peter Molan, a doctor from New Zealand, is a specialist 1 (of, on, in) stomach disorders. He 2 (suggests, offers, advises) his patients a simple but effective alternative to taking medicine: honey. Dr Molan claims the active component in honey is an antibacterial agent called UMF. There is some doubt in the medical world as to whether UMF 3 (can, will, may) destroy bacteria completely, 4 (though, yet, moreover) research clearly shows that people with stomach problems experience some relief soon after taking honey.

Is this yet another case of science simply 5 (being given, giving, given) credibility to what we 6 (will always know, always knew, have always known)? After all, it is common knowledge how soothing hot water laced with honey and lemon can be for sore-throat sufferers. In accepting the beneficial effects of honey, however, a few reservations should be borne in mind. Firstly, the popular belief that honey is healthier than sugar isn’t entirely well-founded. Like all foods, honey can be healthy 7 (when, though, yet) eaten in moderation, but may also have some downsides. Honey contains the same number of calories as other types of sugar, and it can cause blood-sugar levels 8 (rising, being risen, to rise) quickly. Secondly, eating too much honey on a empty stomach can cause discomfort. That is why it’s best to line the stomach with some fibre first, for example by following a main meal 9 (by, with, after) a dessert that incorporates honey. Thirdly, under no 10 (occasions, conditions, circumstances) should a baby’s dummy be dipped in honey before the baby sucks it, as this is just as likely to cause tooth decay as any other sugary treat.
Medea

3. 0 Medea is a play written by the Greek playwright Euripides. The play deals with the later part of Jason's story, after he went and got the Golden Fleece.

3.____ 1. She thought they were married (the Greeks have no marriage ceremony). She tells Jason how angry she is, but he says well of course they were never married: how could he, a Greek, be married to a barbarian like Medea?

3.____ 2. She makes a beautiful magic dress for Creusa, and sends her little boys to bring it to Creusa.

3.____ 3. Greeks only marry other Greeks. Medea, he says, will have to leave Corinth, and she will have to leave their boys with him (fathers usually kept the children in a Greek divorce).

3.____ 4. Medea then kills her little boys, saying that if she can't have them, Jason can't either.

3.____ 5. Jason and Medea had settled in the Greek city of Corinth, and when the play opens they have been living in Corinth for some time, long enough to have had two little boys, maybe six or seven years.

3.____ 6. Jason says yes, he will marry Creusa.

3.____ 7. When Creusa puts on the dress, though, it suddenly turns into fire and burns her up.

3.____ 8. At this point, the king of Corinth, Creon, asks Jason to marry his daughter, Creusa. Creon has no sons, so if Jason marries Creusa he will be the next king of Corinth.

3.____ 9. Medea gets even more angry than she was before.

3.____ 10. When Medea finds out that Jason is going to marry Creusa, she is very angry. After all she killed her brother to help Jason, and he carried her off from Colchis with him, and he has been living with her for years, and they have two children together.

3. 11 Jason is very sad, and Medea leaves in a chariot drawn by dragons.