

Name _____

The Whimsical Tale of Percy Spencer: The Microwave Magician

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Percy Spencer was a self-taught genius who worked for Raytheon, a company known for radar technology. He discovered the potential of microwave radiation for cooking while experimenting with a radar magnetron during his work at Raytheon.
2. Microwave radiation works by exciting water molecules within food, causing them to generate heat. This heat cooks the food from the inside out.
3. Benefits of microwave ovens include quick cooking, convenience, and energy efficiency. Drawbacks may include uneven heating, limited cooking options for certain dishes, and the potential for overcooking.
4. In a world without microwave ovens, cooking would take longer, and reheating leftovers would be less convenient. Many quick and easy meal options would not exist, and food preparation would require more time and effort.

