

Vocabulary

Foods: bacon / beef / lamb / pork / poultry / salmon / seafood / tuna / courgette (BrE) / zucchini (AmE) / aubergine (BrE) / eggplant (AmE) / lettuce / spinach / (bread) roll / dumplings / chocolate / pie

Cooking: recipe / ingredient / herb / spice / flour / pot / pan / frying pan / saucepan / grill / kettle / oven / stovetop (AmE) / freezer / to boil / to fry / to grill / to steam / to stir / to chop / to freeze / to taste (food) / to burn / to lay the table (BrE) / to set the table (AmE)

Describing Food: sweet / sour / salty / spicy / bitter / burnt / raw / delicious / tasty / disgusting / frozen / fried / grilled / hot (spicy) / heavy / light / healthy / comfort food / still (water) / sparkling (water/wine) / vegetarian (no meat or fish) / vegan (no animal products)

Restaurants: takeaway (BrE) / to go (AmE) / to take away / to eat out / canteen (BrE) / cafeteria (AmE) / self-service / buffet / barman (BrE) / bartender (AmE) / chef / cook / server (waiter/waitress) / dishwasher

Personal Questions

- What are your favourite foods? Are there any foods you don't like?
- Do you like cooking? What do you usually cook?
- What is a typical meal at home like for you?
- How often do you eat out? Where do you usually go?

"I like / love / really enjoy / I dislike / don't like / hate / can't stand [food] because... / I eat [food] all the time / I occasionally / rarely eat [food] because... / I try to / don't bother to eat healthy because... I could never be / I am a vegetarian / vegan because..."

"I enjoy / like / love cooking because... / I dislike / hate / can't stand cooking because... I usually cook simple / easy foods like... I usually follow a family recipe / a recipe I find online... I like to experiment with new things like..."

"During the meal, we... After the meal I / my dad / everyone does the washing up (BrE) / does the dishes (AmE)..."

"I often / don't usually eat out in restaurants / get a take away because... / I prefer to cook... / I prefer sit-down restaurants because... / I usually get fast food because..."

Pair Discussion

Imagine that you and a friend are food critics judging three entries in a cooking tournament. The first entry is an Italian meal, the second is Indian, and the third is Czech or Slovak. Take turns describing each of the meals in detail. Listen to your partner's opinions and ask questions. Then decide together which meal is the winner.

* You can find a sample dialogue on the April 2017 CD.

Language for Describing Food and Giving Opinions

This looks / smells / tastes (like)...

I find this (a bit) too...

Compared to..., this one is...

I would prefer if it were more/less...

This is (a little/much) too... for my tastes.

Don't you find this one... ?

Do you prefer... ?

So do we agree that... ?

• Language Point

"Looks/smells/tastes" is used with adjectives, while "looks like/smells like/tastes like" is used to compare something to a noun.

e.g. "This sauce smells delicious/spicy." "This sauce smells like tomatoes/my grandma's sauce."

