

25 Opinions about food

A Taste

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I thought the food looked quite **appetizing**, but I soon changed my mind. First of all, the bread was **stale**. I then started with very **salty** ham with melon, which wasn't **ripe**. My main course was a type of curry, which I thought would be really **spicy**, but was actually quite **bland**. My husband ordered a **rare** steak (hoping it would be **lean** and **juicy**), but instead got a piece of grey meat that was **well done** and **tough**. And the cooked vegetables were almost **raw**. The chocolate tart for dessert was far too **rich** – and very **fattening**. That was probably my mistake. Anyway, we finished with coffee that was very **bitter**. We won't be going back!

wendy
waytogo

SPOTLIGHT adjectives ending in -y

Adjectives ending in -y are often used to describe flavours and smells, e.g. **salty**, **spicy**, **creamy**, **fruity**, **juicy**, **greasy** (= full of oil from cooking), etc. They can mean 'full of something'.

■ This soup's very **salty**.

Or they can mean 'having a similar flavour/smell'.

■ chicken with a **spicy** sauce

■ a wine with a **fruity** smell

GLOSSARY

appetizing	(of food) that looks or smells attractive, making you feel hungry. An appetite is a strong desire for sth, especially food.	lean	(of meat) having little or no fat
stale	(of food, especially bread; also of air) old and not fresh	tough	(of meat) difficult to cut and eat OPP tender
ripe	(of fruit) ready to be picked and eaten	raw	not cooked
bland	(of food) lacking in taste and flavour SYN tasteless	rich	(of food) containing a lot of fat, butter, eggs, sugar, cream, etc, which makes you feel full very quickly
rare	(of meat) only cooked a short time (still red inside). Other ways of cooking meat are medium or well done .	fattening	(of food) that makes people fat
		bitter	having a sharp unpleasant taste; not sweet. We use sour to describe the taste of a lemon.

1 Underline the possible answers. One, two or three may be possible.

- The meat was very *lean* / *bitter* / *tender*.
- The chocolate was *greasy* / *sweet* / *rich*.
- The vegetables were *tasteless* / *bland* / *stale*.
- The bread was *fresh* / *raw* / *stale*.
- The soup was *salty* / *tender* / *ripe*.
- My steak was *rare* / *well done* / *tough*.
- The chips were *ripe* / *greasy* / *sour*.
- The peaches were *tasteless* / *sweet* / *ripe*.

2 Complete the phrases in a suitable way.

- You don't want bread that is
- You don't want fruit that isn't
- You don't want meat that is very
- You don't want coffee that is too
- If you're on a diet, you don't want food that is
- And you always want food to look

3 Complete the words in the text.

We found a table by the window. I had quite an (1) a after our long walk, and I started with the Thai soup which should be hot and (2) s It was, and the flavours were really good. Unfortunately, it was also a bit too (3) s, so I needed to drink quite a lot of water with it. My steak was nice and (4) l and cooked just as I like it, i.e. not completely (5) r but very (6) r Unfortunately, the pepper sauce was quite (7) b (I like it hot and very peppery), and the chips with it were a bit (8) g I finished with a chocolate pudding. It was quite (9) r but still very nice.



TEST YOURSELF

B Live to eat or eat to live

While some people live to eat, I **couldn't care less** about food. In the morning I have a **mug**¹ of **instant** coffee and **cereal** if I'm lucky. I then take a **packed lunch** (a sandwich and a banana) or **pop in** to the **self-service canteen** for something around 12.30. In the evening, I generally **heat something up** that I've bought in the supermarket, then eat it on a **tray**² on my **lap**³ while watching TV. At the weekend, I **treat myself to a takeaway**. I think my most important piece of kitchen equipment is probably my **tin opener**.



GLOSSARY

I couldn't care less (about sth/sb) <i>inf</i>	= it does not matter to me at all (This can sound a bit rude.)	self-service	(of a restaurant, shop, etc.) where you serve yourself and then pay.
instant	(of food) that can be prepared quickly and easily, usually by adding hot water: instant coffee	canteen	the place in a school, office, factory, etc. where the people who work there can get meals
cereal	a food that is made of grain, often eaten for breakfast with milk	heat (sth) (up)	become or make sth hot or warm
packed lunch	food that you prepare at home and take with you to eat at work or school	treat sb/yourself (to sth)	give sb/yourself sth special; pay for sth for sb else
pop in (to somewhere)	make a quick visit somewhere, e.g. a shop or a person's home	takeaway	food that you buy in a restaurant but eat somewhere else
		tin opener	a tool that you use for opening a tin of food SYN can opener

4 Finish the words or phrases.

- Where's the tin _____?
- This restaurant is self-_____.
- You just have to heat the meal _____.
- Have a chocolate. Go on, treat _____!
- You decide. I couldn't care _____.
- Mum made me a packed _____.

5 Complete the dialogues.

- Are you going out tonight? ~ Yes, I'm _____ less to an expensive meal.
- I haven't got real coffee. ~ That's OK. _____ is fine.
- Could I have tea rather than coffee? ~ Sure. Cup or _____?
- Where shall I put the _____ of drinks? ~ Oh, on the dining-room table, please.
- Do you want to stay in or go out? ~ I couldn't _____ less. You decide.
- Shall we go out to eat? ~ No, let's get a _____ and come back here.
- Why were you late? ~ Oh, I just _____ in to see Carmen on my way home.
- Do they have waiters in the new café? ~ No, it's all _____.

6 Complete the questions.

- Do you drink real coffee or _____ coffee?
- Do you drink coffee out of a cup or a _____?
- Do you have _____ with milk for breakfast, or do you prefer something hot?
- Would you be happy with a _____ lunch instead of a cooked meal?
- Do you eat in a school or office _____?
- Do you always cook fresh food or are you happy to _____ prepared or frozen food?
- Do you often get a _____ rather than cook at home?
- How do you _____ yourself if you want to eat something special?
- Do you ever eat food on your _____ while watching TV?

7 ABOUT YOU Write your answers to Exercise 6, or talk to another student.



TEST YOURSELF