

UNIT 5

VIETNAMESE FOOD AND DRINK

D. READING

I. Fill in each blank with a word from the box.

basic stewing pot vary most even broth rice

Pho is one of the (1) _____ popular Vietnamese dishes. What is pho? Pho is a Vietnamese noodle soup consisting of (2) _____, rice noodles, herbs and meat.

There are two (3) _____ types of pho and that is Pho Bo (beef noodle soup) and Pho Ga (chicken noodle soup). Pho Bo is beef broth that is made by stewing cow bones in a large (4) _____ for quite a long time. Pho Ga is very similar to Pho Bo. Instead of beef broth, chicken broth is made by (5) _____ chicken bones. The noodle itself is made from varieties of (6) _____. The ingredients and toppings may (7) _____ a slight bit in the North and the South.

Pho is normally eaten for breakfast, but many of people eat at lunch, or (8) _____ dinner.

II. Read the text carefully then decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

Once being a basic food of farmers and poor families in Vietnam, *com tam* or broken rice is now a favourite dish of most Vietnamese. It is said that the best broken rice can be found in Saigon. When you come to Saigon, you should try this dish at least one time and you will not regret it.

Com tam literally means broken rice. Broken rice originally consisted of grains which were broken during the harvesting and cleaning of rice. In the past, as most people preferred to eat the long, whole grain rice, broken rice grains were difficult to sell and usually eaten by the Vietnamese working class because of the cheap price. Nowadays, often favored over long grain rice for its unique flavour and texture, broken rice is one of the best-loved fares in Vietnam.

Local broken rice eateries can practically be found on every street in Saigon. A broken rice dish is served with many beautiful colours from grilled pork chop with multi-flavour to steamed egg, shredded pork skin, pickles, vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers ... and especially sweet fish sauce that is the spirit of the dish.

1. Today, *com tam* is only eaten by poor Vietnamese.
2. *Com tam* is made from broken rice grains.
3. In the past, most people didn't eat broken rice grains because they were cheap.
4. It is difficult to find a place to eat *com tam* in Saigon.
5. The most important part of *com tam* is sweet fish sauce.
6. *Com tam* is now a favourite dish of Vietnamese people, especially Saigonese.

E. WRITING

I. Arrange the words to make sentences.

1. kilos/how many/would/potatoes/of/like/you/?

2. but/went/I/fish/ I/ fishing/ catch/didn't/any/.

3. 15/ cook/for/chicken/you/over/ the/low/minutes/heat/it/before/ serve/.

4. broken/tell/you/can/how/me/to/rice/cook/?

5. three/in/fridge/are/there/milk/the/cartons/of/.

6. has/but/egg/bread/got/he/an/hasn't/he/any/got/.

7. electric cooker/how much/in/rice/left/the/is/?

8. Vietnam/most/Pho/of/the/popular/is/one/dishes/in/.

II. Write the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first one.

1. I've never seen such a boring movie.

→ It is _____

2. There are a few eggs in the fridge.

→ There are not _____

3. They have lived there for two years.

→ They started _____

4. This is the first time I have drunk cocktail.

→ I have never _____

5. This exercise is easier than the last one.

→ This exercise is not _____

6. I'm bored of playing computer games.

→ I find _____

7. The new building is as high as the old one.

→ The new building is the same _____

8. She had no eggs, so she didn't make an omelette.

→ She didn't have _____