

Vocabulary

Food and cooking

1 Choose the correct alternatives.

- 1 Shall we boil the carrots or *drain/steam* them?
- 2 I think we should *dip/stuff* those peppers with rice and vegetables.
- 3 I always *blend/sprinkle* a banana, strawberries and juice together for my breakfast.
- 4 The meat takes about two hours to *peel/roast*.
- 5 *Peel/Sprinkle* some chocolate pieces onto the cake to finish it off.
- 6 To start the dessert, *dip/soak* the cake in some orange juice for an hour.
- 7 Don't boil the liquid, let it *grill/simmer* gently.
- 8 The best way to eat a biscuit is to *dip/drain* it in a cup of tea.

2 Complete the recipe with the verbs in the box.



blend drain grate grill peel simmer
sprinkle steam

Cumberland Pie

Fry 700 g of minced beef in a pan. When brown, remove the meat and put it onto a plate.

1 _____ two cloves of garlic, one onion and two carrots. Chop them into small pieces and fry them for five minutes in oil until soft.

Return the meat to the pan and add 130 ml of beef stock. Add salt and pepper and then 2 _____ on a low heat for 30 minutes.

In the meantime, heat the oven to 200°C and boil 70 g of potatoes. When cooked, 3 _____ the water from the potatoes thoroughly and mash them with a fork until soft. 4 _____ in some milk and butter.

Place the minced meat mixture into an ovenproof dish and then spread the mashed potatoes on top. 5 _____ some cheddar cheese and 6 _____ it on the potato. Cook in the oven for around 25 minutes. If the cheese on top is not yet brown and crisp, 7 _____ it for a few minutes before serving.

8 _____ some green beans so they are cooked but still nice and crisp. Serve with the Cumberland Pie when ready.

Language focus

Complex comparatives

3 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 meal / salt / needs / this / more / a tiny bit

- 2 yours / nowhere / as / flat / nice / my / as / is / near

- 3 expected it / miles / it's / to be / nicer here / I / than

- 4 like / my job / well-paid / is / near / nowhere / I'd / as / as

- 5 used to be / ten times / is / my cooking / it / than / better

- 6 bad / you'd said / as / nothing like / the film / as / was

- 7 as / by physics / fascinated / I'm / you are / not quite / as

- 8 for me / are / these days / these trousers / tighter / much

4 Correct the mistake in six of the sentences.

- 1 This chocolate bar is way small than it used to be.
- 2 My younger sister is miles funnier than me.
- 3 My piano playing is nowhere like as good as it once was.
- 4 The pasta sauce needs the touch more garlic.
- 5 Tommy and I are not quite as close than we used to be.
- 6 It's 50 times hotter today than yesterday.
- 7 If you could all be a bit less noisier, I'd really appreciate it.
- 8 Dan's much more quieter today than normal.

5 Complete the conversation using the prompts.

A: Did you enjoy your meal out last night?

B: Not really. It was ¹ _____ (nowhere / good) when we went last year.

A: Oh no. What was wrong?

B: Well, the menu was ² _____ (bit / varied) which was good, but the food was ³ _____ (much / impressive). It was very bland and there was also a lot less of it. The service was ⁴ _____ (hundred times / bad) too. The waiter showed little interest in us and clearly forgot about us a couple of times.

A: I hate bad service.

B: Me too. We didn't bother leaving a tip. The whole experience was ⁵ _____ (nothing / enjoyable) before. I won't go again.

A: You should try the new restaurant on Mill Road. It's ⁶ _____ (touch / pricey) than we're used to, but the food is amazing.