**Beth Newbold, winner of the junior chef competition, writes about learning to cook.**

I was quite young, about five when I made my first cake, I think. And it wasn't my mum or dad who taught me. My parents didn't cook much. Mum didn't enjoy it, perhaps because she had a busy life. And dad – well – his meals were terrible! So, we usually ate things like burgers or pasta and boiled vegetables or chips from the shop!

I only ate well when we went to my gran's. She was a great cook and I loved the smell of her kitchen. She made fresh cakes and bread and biscuits. Her soups were amazing too. She showed me how to bake cakes. I was short at that time and I remember I had to stand on a chair to work on her table!

Making my first cake was really exciting. I mixed it with my gran's 'magic' spoon! It tasted very good to me because I cooked it (with a little help from gran). I think it was probably horrible, but gran said it was excellent! Then I regularly helped with the meals at gran's. I watched her carefully and she gave me a lot of her secrets about cooking. She never used recipe books!

Then gran found an advertisement for the TV competition in a magazine at her hairdresser's and she sent them my name! She didn't even tell my mum. When I heard, I was really angry. I get nervous about competitions because I don't like losing! But gran told me I was a great cook and she was proud of me. So, I took part in the competition. I couldn't believe it when I won a course of cooking lessons with a top chef!

## Task 2

**Choose the correct answer (A, B or C).**

**31** What does Beth say about her dad?

**A** He often went to restaurants.
**B** he cooked badly.
**C** He was always busy.

**32** What does Beth remember about the kitchen table?

**A** She had a problem reaching it.
**B** She sat there to watch her grandmother cook.
**C** She did her homework on it.

**33** Beth now thinks her first cake was

**A** excellent
**B** worse that she thought at the time
**C** made by her gran

**34** Who wrote in to the competition?

**A** Beth.
**B** Beth's mum.
**C** Beth's gran.

**35** Why was Beth angry about the competition at first?

**A** She thought she was a bad cook.
**B** Her gran didn't tell her mother about it.
**C** She thought she might not win.

| | 10 |

Total: | | 50 |



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