1 Read these paragraphs with words from the discussion. Then complete each definition with one of the words in blue.

a. Some kinds of shellfish, including clams, mussels, and oysters, can **filter** pollution from the water in which they live. This ability to remove pollutants means they play an important **ecological** role.

b. One study suggests consumers may **discard** up to one quarter of the food they buy. Some people are **skeptical** whether the real figure is this high, but others believe it and have taken steps to reduce their food waste. Still others take a **neutral** position and say that more studies need to be conducted.

c. Some chefs are famous for using **unusual** ingredients in their recipes, including fruits and vegetables that are **edible** but rarely eaten. In addition to being delicious, these unusual foods are often rich in **nutrients**.

d. Farmed fish used to be a **niche** product, but it now makes up around 40 percent of the fish purchased in some countries. This increase comes at a cost, though, as **conventional** aquaculture, or fish farming, can cause pollution.

1. _____ (adj) related to the connections among plants, animals, and people

2. _____ (adj) not supporting any position or side in an argument

3. _____ (n) the foods and substances that are used to make a particular dish

4. _____ (n) substances in food, such as vitamins, that are necessary for life

5. _____ (adj) related to products or services that are for a limited market or group

6. _____ (v) remove something that is unwanted from a liquid or gas

7. _____ (v) throw away something that is unwanted or not useful

8. _____ (adj) usual or traditional

9. _____ (adj) doubtful or disbelieving

10. _____ (adj) can be eaten

2 These sentences will help you learn words in the edited TED Talk. Read the sentences. Then choose the answer that has the same meaning as each word in blue.

1. The restaurant owner reviewed the plans and adopted the one that had the fewest **drawbacks**.

   a. disadvantages   **b.** opportunities   **c.** solutions

2. During cooking, the **conversion** of some substances into sugars adds delicious flavor to food.

   a. process   **b.** change   **c.** observation

3. Fish are often concentrated in schools, or groups, in nutrient-rich waters rather than being equally **distributed** across the oceans.

   a. caught up   **b.** spread out   **c.** stuck together

4. The chef was pleased to see that her customers were happily **feasting** on the dishes she prepared.

   a. making good choices   **b.** discussing in detail   **c.** eating large amounts

5. The organic market almost went out of business last year, but it is **thriving** under the new manager.

   a. having a hard time   **b.** doing very well   **c.** developing a little

6. The expert pointed out that much more food could be grown on the land if it were farmed **intensively** rather than extensively, as is currently the case.

   a. from time to time   **b.** with maximum effort   **c.** as a general rule

7. The villagers installed a filter to **purify** the water they were drinking and using for cooking.

   a. remove impurities from   **b.** remember the uses of   **c.** reduce the effects of

8. The book was popular because the author presented a clear **conception** of how to eat healthily.

   a. idea or understanding   **b.** option or decision   **c.** time or schedule

9. The chef was criticized for being an idealist, rather than a **realist**, about sustainable food production.

   a. person focusing on choices   **b.** person focusing on goals   **c.** person focusing on facts

10. The politician argued that the only way to restore the health of the oceans and avoid **depleting** fish stocks was to catch fewer fish.

   a. clearing up   **b.** keeping up   **c.** using up

Play the audio. Listen to the definition and write the correct vocabulary word on the space below.

conception - conventional – conversion – deplete – discard – drawback – ingredients - neutral – edible – purify – skeptical - thrive

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12.