

1 Wake up your senses!

LISTENING

1.3 Listen to the podcast. What is the presenter's aim?

- A to show listeners how to test their sense of taste
- B to compare his sense of taste with the average person
- C to give information about a special category of people

1.4 Listen again and complete the sentences with a word or a short phrase in each gap.

A science podcast

The first podcast in the series on senses talked about ¹.....

Supertasters have more ²..... for processing taste than an average person.

The presenter was surprised that being a supertaster can ³..... your diet.

Approximately a ⁴..... of the population are supertasters.

People tend to lose their sense of taste and smell after the age of ⁵.....

The majority of people don't understand that the nose and mouth are both needed to produce a ⁶..... variety of tastes.

The 350 receptors in the nose work by detecting the ⁷..... structure in the smell of what we eat.

It is estimated that human beings can distinguish up to ⁸..... different smells.

Many people from the Science for Life office ⁹.....

The presenter was disappointed to have ¹⁰..... result in a taste test.

Extend

Match these adjectives with the types of food (A–D). There's one extra word you do not need.

bitter salty savoury sour sweet



Choose the correct words to complete the sentences (1–5).

- 1 Any non-sweet food can be called salty / savoury.
- 2 Food with a lot of or too much flavour is described as great / strong.
- 3 An apple without much flavour can be called watery / fruity.
- 4 Dishes with a lot of chillies can be called spicy or burning / hot.
- 5 Someone who refuses to eat many types of food is called a bossy / fussy eater.

Choose the correct words to complete the text.

A matter of taste

I have an identical twin sister, but we couldn't be more different when it comes to food. She loves cakes and biscuits whereas I don't eat many 'sweet / savoury things. She's definitely a milk chocolate fan, but I prefer the ²fruity / bitter flavour of dark chocolate. It's the same with coffee: mine is ³strong / sour and full of flavour, hers is all ⁴salty / watery. And she never wants to eat my curry! I love chillies so it's much too ⁵fussy / spicy for her, but for me, the ⁶hotter / bigger, the better!