

4th Adol E - Reading- Midterm Exam- Optimise B1

An eight year old bilingual masterchef

What could you cook when you were eight? How many languages could you speak well? Most children at this age might be able to make toast and put some butter and jam on it, but eight-year-old Oscar Jefferson, from England, can not only produce excellent meals but has managed to beat 6,000 other children up to 12 years old to get a place on the cooking competition Junior MasterChef. But he didn't appear on the British television show – he was the star of the Spanish Junior MasterChef!

Although Oscar comes from England, he moved to Cádiz in the south of Spain when he was six. When he arrived in Spain, he didn't speak any Spanish, but he amazed viewers of the show by speaking perfect Spanish as well as English. The producers of Junior MasterChef decided to call him by his surname 'Jefferson' on the show, because Oscar is a popular Spanish name and Jefferson sounded more English. During the competition he produced some excellent dishes, such as fish ceviche and prawn vol-au-vents, and he almost reached the final. But in a dramatic semi-final, he had some problems with the very traditional British dish of fish and chips.

His grandfather, Mike Jefferson, flew to Spain to cook with Oscar for the semi-final. They cooked side by side and Mike offered support to his grandson. Unfortunately, Oscar had problems cooking his fish and then by mistake dropped the tartare sauce he was making, so that had to be left out. He started to cry and although he finally got his fish and chips on the plate, it wasn't good enough to reach the final. In the process he became famous on social media and has over 12,000 followers on Twitter.

His story didn't end there. The video of Oscar crying after his fish and chips disaster went viral on social media and, for some people, this would have been very embarrassing. But not for Oscar. The next day he cooked for Simon Manley, the British ambassador to Madrid, and famous chef Marcos Morán, the director of the Hispania restaurant in London. Then, a few days later, he appeared on British TV where he got a second chance to make fish and chips with the help of chef Phil Vickery. This time everything was perfect.

Oscar has had to respond to thousands of messages on Twitter. When Oscar was asked what he wanted to do when he grew up, he immediately said: 'Well, be a chef, obviously. If I'm not a chef, I would probably like to be an astronaut, to see what food they have in space and cook there.' So, are you inspired by Oscar? Would you like to appear on a cooking programme? Why not learn how to cook one dish well and start from there? Who knows how far you will go?

For questions 1–5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

1 What do you learn about Oscar in the first paragraph?

- A He can make toast with butter and jam.
- B He appeared on Spanish television in a cooking programme.
- C He appeared on UK Junior MasterChef.
- D He can speak several languages.

2 What does the writer say about Oscar in the second paragraph?

- A He could speak perfect Spanish when he was six.
- B He was confident he could reach the final.
- C He surprised people by speaking two languages.
- D He likes the name Jefferson more than Oscar.

3 What happened in Oscar's final programme?

- A He was unable to complete his dish.
- B He didn't get his fish onto the plate.
- C A photo of his fish and chips appeared on Twitter.
- D He competed against his grandfather.

4 What happened after the programme?

- A A British chef cooked with Oscar in Madrid.
- B Many people saw and shared the video of Oscar crying.
- C Oscar was nervous about cooking again.
- D He met one of his favourite chefs.

5 What might the writer say about Oscar?

- A He is the best cook I have ever seen.
- B I want to visit the restaurant where he works.
- C I'm sure he will be an astronaut in the future.
- D He has a lot of ability for someone so young.