

Chapter 6

Delicious Choices

“Food is our common ground, a universal experience.”
James Beard



Jason Q. Tran | www.jasonqtran.com



Getting Started



Photographer | Tung Phan

Name that food!

Directions:

Draw a food item in the box below. Do not show anyone. The purpose of this activity is for others to ask you yes/no questions in order to find out what that food item is. You can only respond to the question with “yes” or “no.” Take turns asking yes/no questions until someone guesses correctly. Remember, your classmate only has 10 questions to guess correctly what that food item is

6



Sharing Experiences



Jason Q. Tran | www.jasonqtran.com

Everybody eats. Food is both a necessity and a pleasure, and remains a safe and interesting way to learn more about people. Interview your partner and share your eating and drinking experiences.

- 1 Do you consider eating a chore, a duty, or a pleasure? Why?
- 2 What did you eat yesterday? Was it a typical day?
- 3 Do you drink juice/tea/coffee in the morning? Regular or decaffeinated?
- 4 Do you eat at the same time each day? Or do you eat when you have time?
- 5 Do you prefer salty snacks or sweet snacks? How often do you snack?
- 6 Where do you usually shop for food? What shopping tips can you share?
- 7 What drinks do you often have with your evening meal?
- 8 What kind of meat do you enjoy eating? Beef? Pork? Poultry?
- 9 Do you have a favorite vegetable? Are you a vegetarian?
- 10 What is your favorite fruit? Which fruits do you find delicious?
- 11 Can you name three dishes that you really enjoy or savor?
- 12 Which regional foods in Vietnam do you like the most? What are they?
- 13 What are some unique Vietnamese dishes?
- 14 What dishes, ingredients, or spices do you look for on menus?
- 15 Which Vietnamese dishes would you recommend to an American? Why?

ON YOUR OWN

Write menu descriptions for your perfect meal. Include the major ingredients, beverages and desserts. Indulge yourself. Now describe your delicious choices to your group.



Word List

Which words do you already know? Underline them, and circle the words you are unsure about. Then review your answers with a partner.

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
chef /shéph/	savor /xê.vờ/	decaffeinated /đi.khăf.phờ.nê.địd/	fast /phas/
culinary /kho.lê.ne.rì/	feast /phís/	edible /e.đi.bồ/	
label /lê.bồ/	label /lê.bồ/		
feast /phís/			
glutton /glát.thần/			
vegetarian /ve.jà.the.rì.ần/			

*Academic Word List

6



Expanding Vocabulary

Look at the definitions and example sentences below. Do the definitions match what you and your partner expected in the Word List? If not, what is different?

chef [noun]: a professional cook; the head cook in a restaurant.

Ex: The **chef's** specialty was broiled fish and his tasty seafood stew.

culinary [noun]: having to do with cooking and food; concerning superior preparation of food.

Ex: Study the **culinary** arts if you want to become a chef.

decaffeinated [adjective]: containing no caffeine; a drink with the caffeine removed.

Ex: Sue drank **decaffeinated** coffee because regular coffee made her nervous.

edible [adjective]: something that can be eaten.

Ex: Starving people know that insects are **edible** during famines.

fast [adverb]: moving with speed, advancing or progressing rapidly;
[noun]: a period of time without eating;
[verb]; to go without eating.

Ex: Thang's motorbike can go very **fast**, but it sometimes goes slow in city traffic.
The word "breakfast" literally means to break the **fast**.
Some people fast on holidays and some people **fast** to lose weight.

feast [noun]: a large, excellent meal; an abundant amount of well-prepared food.

Ex: My mother prepared a **feast** to celebrate my graduation.

gluttony [noun]: an excess of eating or drinking; greedy or excessive indulgence.

Ex: **Gluttony** is a common problem among overweight Americans.

label [noun]: the notice that identifies contents inside;

[verb]: to describe or classify objects or people

Ex: Do you read food **labels** before buying food in the supermarket?
We carefully label packages for shipment, and we double-check the **labels**.

savor [verb]: to really enjoy; to experience satisfaction and pleasure in taste or smell.

Ex: Eat slowly to **savor** this fabulous dinner that my grandmother prepared.

vegetarian [noun]: one who eats no meat; a no-meat diet.

Ex: As a **vegetarian**, Sari doesn't eat meat.



Asking Questions with New Vocabulary Words



Select five vocabulary words in this chapter and write a question for each word. Remember to start your question with a question word (Who, What, Where, When, Why, How, Is, Are, Do, Did, Does, etc.). You also want to end each question with a question mark (?). Underline each vocabulary word

Example: Do you know the restaurant's chef?

- 1: _____
- 2: _____
- 3: _____
- 4: _____
- 5: _____

- B** Take turns asking and answering questions with your partner or group members. Ask your instructor to give you feedback on your questions to check your English grammar.



Paraphrasing Proverbs

Read the following proverbs and discuss them with your partner. Write what you think they mean in the spaces provided. Circle your favorites. Explain your choices.

Culture Corner: Fun with Puns

Puns are word jokes. English has many puns. Understanding puns can be difficult for many English language learners because words can have multiple meanings and some sounds have multiple spellings with different meanings. Understanding puns requires listeners to think like a word detective, but puns can be fun. Here are three about food:

- I'm on a seafood diet. I see food and I eat it.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat
- A hungry clock will go back for seconds.

Can you find another pun about fun in English or Vietnamese?

Vietnamese:

Eat slow, chew carefully, full for a long time. Eat fast, hungry quickly, and stomach pain.

“Ăn chậm, nhai kỹ, no lâu. Ăn nhanh, chóng đói, lại đau dạ dày.”

Meaning: _____

When eating a fruit, remember the person that grew the fruit.

“Ăn quả nhớ kẻ trồng cây.”

Meaning: _____

Able to eat and sleep is heavenly. Not able to eat and sleep is money thrown away.

“Ăn được ngủ được là tiên. Ăn ngủ không được là tiền vứt đi.”

Meaning: _____

International:

One must eat to live, not live to eat.—Spanish

Meaning: _____

Too much is not enough. – American

Meaning: _____

Eat, drink, and be merry.—English

Meaning: _____

The most sincere love is the love of food.—French

Meaning: _____



Building Words

Using the Latin Prefix “de-”

The Latin prefix “de” usually means “removal from”, and we can find many academic and common words that use this prefix. Some adults like to drink “decaf”, or decaffeinated, coffee that contains no caffeine that has been removed from the popular drink. Scholars may also “debunk” a theory meaning they removed “bunk” or “junk” from their field by disproving an idea with evidence.

Prefix	Meaning	Example
de-	removal of, departure from	decaf

Complete the chart below by following the example. For the last two rows, add new base words.

Prefix	Base	New Word
de-	caffeinated	decaffeinated
de-	bunk	
de-	cipher	
de-	form	
de-	lineate	
de-	mote	
de-	nounce	
de-	press	
de-	volve	
de-		
de-		

- A** Select four words from the above chart and create a question for your partner. Remember to start your question with a question word (Who, What, Where, When, Why, How, Is, Are, Do, Did, Does, etc.). You also want to end each question with a question mark (?). Underline each vocabulary word

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

- B** Take turns asking and answering questions with your partner. Ask your instructor to give you feedback to check your English grammar.



Discussing Quotations

In your small groups, take turns reading these quotations out loud and discuss them. Do you agree with the quotation? Disagree? Why? Afterwards, pick a favorite quotation by circling the number and explain your choice. Remember to give a reason or example.

1. **“Better beans and bacon in peace than cakes and ale in fear.”**
—Aesop (ca. 550 B.C.)
2. **“The satiated man and the hungry one do not see the same thing when they look upon a loaf of bread.”**
—Rumi (1207–1273), Persian poet and mystic
3. **“If it’s beautifully arranged on the plate, you know someone’s fingers have been all over it.”**
—Julia Child (1912–2004), American chef/author
4. **“Live. Love. Eat.”**
—Wolfgang Puck (1949–), chef
5. **“When I drink, I think; and when I think, I drink.”**
—Francois Rabelais (1495–1553), satirist
6. **“Edible (adj). Good to eat and wholesome to digest, as a worm to a toad, a toad to a snake, a snake to a pig, a pig to a man, and a man to a worm.”**
—Ambrose Bierce (1842–1916), American writer
7. **“The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age.”**
—Lucille Desiree Ball (1911–1984), American TV star and actress
8. **“People who drink to drown their sorrow should be told that sorrow knows how to swim.”**
—Ann Landers (1918–2002), American advice columnist

9. “I thought, I called, I planned, I shopped, I schlepped, I cleaned, I chopped, I soaked, I peeled, I rinsed, I grated, I minced, I simmered, I larded, I mixed, I fried, I boiled, I baked, I sauteed, I souffleed, I flame broiled, and I sweated. So, tell me it’s great!”

—Slogan on a novelty kitchen apron in the United States

10. “More die in the United States of too much food than of too little.”

—John Kenneth Galbraith (1908–2006) ambassador, economist

Please write a quotation that you like and tell us why.

A Favorite Quotation: _____

Why?



The Conversation Continues

6



Jason Q. Tran | www.jasonqtran.com

Let’s continue to explore topics related to food and drinks with one or two classmates. Use complete sentences to respond

- 1 What and where is your favorite restaurant?
- 2 How often do you eat at home/in a restaurant? Why?
- 3 What is a typical lunch in Vietnam? What is a typical lunch in the U.S.?
- 4 How often does your family eat the evening meal together? Who cooks?
- 5 In Vietnamese culture, what foods or drinks are traditionally associated with holidays? Weddings? Birthdays? Funerals?
- 6 Have you ever fasted? Why? Were you hungry after skipping two meals?
- 7 Why do some people read food labels? Do you have any food allergies?

- 8 Do you cook? Do you save recipes? Can you share a favorite family recipe?
- 9 What is something that you eat/drink every day?
- 10 Can you name some restaurants in this area that serve food from other countries? What kinds of food do they serve? What's your favorite?
- 11 How have people's eating habits changed over the years?
- 12 What do you care most about in a restaurant: food, atmosphere, or customer service?
- 13 Have you ever had a bad restaurant experience? What happened?
- 14 Do you think buffets is a good value?
- 15 What is your favorite Vietnamese/western dessert?



Pronunciation Corner

Now that you have learned the correct pronunciation of some voiced and voiceless consonants, you can further develop this skill by knowing the difference between a voiced and voiceless consonant. For some words in English, the **verb** word form ends with a **voiced** consonant sound and the **noun** word form end with a **voiceless** consonant sound.

Group work: Nouns and Verbs

Student A: Say a noun or verb from each pair of words below.

Student B: Say "noun" or "verb."

Voice [verbs] vs. Voiceless [nouns]

Nouns	Verbs
proof /f/	prove /v/
safe /f/	save /v/
use /s/	use /z/
advice /s/	advise /z/
excuse /s/	excuse /z/
belief /f/	believe /v/
relief /f/	relieve /v/
grief /f/	grieve /v/
device /s/	devise /z/



Culture Corner

Billy Pham | www.billypham.com



Eating Etiquette

Table manners play an important role in making a positive impression. Below are a list of Dos and Don'ts to make you feel comfortable when eating with Americans in public. Add your own Dos and Don'ts to the list below.

General Dos

- Try to have light conversation with everyone at the table
- Do put your napkin in your lap. When you are finished with your dinner, place it loosely on the table, not on the plate and never on the chair.
- Do raise your hand and say, "Excuse me, please!" when you need help in a restaurant.
- Do assume each person will pay for their share of the bill when eating in a group unless someone clearly states they will pay. Likewise, many couples split the bill while dating. This tradition is called "going Dutch".
- _____
- _____
- _____

General Don'ts

- Don't eat too fast – take time to enjoy the food.
- Don't talk when your mouth is full of food.
- Don't chew with your mouth open.
- Don't place your elbows on the table and keep your left hand in your lap unless you are using it.
- Don't make loud eating noises such as slurping (e.g. soup) and burping.
- Don't blow your nose at the dinner table. Excuse yourself to visit the restroom. Wash your hands before returning to the dining room.
- Don't answer your phone during the meal.
- Don't floss, use a toothpick, and/or apply makeup at the table.
- Don't say that you're going the restroom. Instead, use "Excuse me" or "I'll be right back" before leaving the table.
- _____
- _____
- _____

6



Classroom Activity: Role Play

A Night Out at a Fancy Restaurant in Los Angeles

Billy Pham | www.billypham.com



A Asking Questions

Eating out can be fun and satisfying, especially if ordering in English. What are two typical questions to ask a waiter at a nice restaurant?

1. _____
2. _____

What are two questions you might ask a friend at dinner?

1. _____
2. _____

B Accidents Happen!

Everybody wants to have a good time when they go out, but sometimes bad things happen to good people—even in nice restaurants!

Let's imagine this situation: Two friends are going to dinner, and they want to talk. At the restaurant, a new waiter has just started. He's very nervous. It's a busy night at a fashionable restaurant on Saturday night. Everybody wants to have a good time, but accidents do happen. Answer the questions and act in your own play. Have fun!

- 1 What will happen?
- 2 Who are the friends? What are their names?
- 3 What do they want to talk about?
- 4 What's the restaurant's name?
- 5 Where is the restaurant?
- 6 Why did they choose this restaurant?
- 7 Who is the new waiter? What is the waiter's name? What does the waiter look like? Why is the restaurant so busy?
- 8 What accidents will happen?
- 9 What happens next?
- 10 Can you create a fun skit?



Search & Share

Choosing a Local Restaurant

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Jason Q. Tran | www.jasonqtran.com



Can you recommend a good place for dinner around here? Find and share a positive review (Yelp, etc) for a local restaurant that you like. Pick a favorite local restaurant, do some research, and pick the best review—in English. Use this worksheet to tell us about the review.

6

Remember restaurant reviews should provide examples and details. Tell us about a special restaurant—in English—and help us find a place to eat delicious food.

Restaurant: _____ Location: _____

Reviewer: _____ Review: _____

- 1 Why did you pick this review?
- 2 How does the reviewer describe the restaurant? What kind of food does it serve?
- 3 When was the review written?
- 4 What do you know about the reviewer?
- 5 What does the reviewer say about the restaurant's atmosphere?
- 6 How did the reviewer describe the restaurant's service?
- 7 What did the reviewer eat?
- 8 What was the best part of the restaurant review?
- 9 Does the reviewer recommend the restaurant?
- 10 How often have you been to the restaurant? What makes this restaurant special?

“One man’s
meat is another
man’s poison.”
—Latin proverb