

**G** nouns: compound and possessive forms

**V** preparing food; food adjectives with -y

**P** words with silent syllables

## 1 VOCABULARY preparing food

- a Imagine you are in a restaurant and are given the menu below. Study it for a couple of minutes and choose what to have. Compare with a partner.

### BEN'S BRASSERIE

#### APPETIZERS

cobb salad \$9.95  
grilled chicken, avocado, blue cheese,  
and arugula with raspberry vinaigrette

steamed mussels \$13.95  
with coconut and chili peppers

grilled sardines \$11.95  
with parsley, lemon, and garlic

#### MAIN COURSES

Thai chicken curry \$22.95  
stir-fried chicken, Thai spices, peppers,  
onions, cashew nuts, and coconut milk  
with jasmine rice or egg noodles

spicy sausages \$21.95  
with garlic mashed potatoes and onion purée

herb-crusted lamb chops \$22.95  
with potatoes, steamed green beans,  
and balsamic sauce

hot-smoked salmon \$20.95  
with mashed potatoes, poached egg,  
and hollandaise sauce

baked eggplant \$18.95  
stuffed with basmati rice, pecorino cheese,  
and pistachios

#### DESSERTS

plum and almond tart \$7.95  
with amaretto whipped cream

apple and blackberry pie \$8.95  
with vanilla ice cream

A service charge of 15% will be added to your bill.

- b Complete the chart with words from the menu. Find three for each category.

Ways of preparing food	
Vegetables	
Fruit and nuts	
Sauces and dressings	
Fish and seafood	

- c What fruits, vegetables, and meat, fish or seafood are really popular in your region or country? Do you know how to say them in English?
- d **Vp.173 Vocabulary Bank** Preparing food.

## 2 PRONUNCIATION words with silent syllables

- a **9.13** You are going to hear eight sentences. For each one, write down the last word you hear.

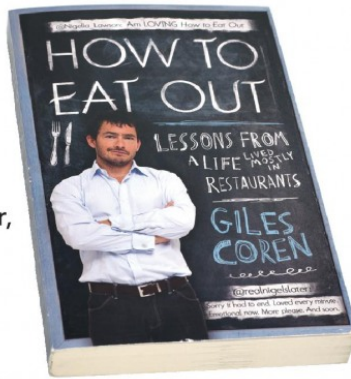
### **Fine-tuning your pronunciation: silent syllables**

Some common multi-syllable words in English have vowels that are often not pronounced, e.g., the middle e in *average* and the o in *favorite*. When this happens, the word loses an unstressed syllable. If you pronounce these vowels, you will still be understood, but leaving them out will make your speech sound more natural, and being aware of them will help you to understand these words in rapid speech.

- b Cross out the vowels that are not pronounced in the words you wrote down in a.
- c **9.14** Listen and check. Practice saying the words.

### 3 LISTENING & SPEAKING

- a You are going to listen to extracts from a book called *How to Eat Out* by restaurant critic Giles Coren, giving advice about how to get the best out of restaurant meals. Before you listen, with a partner, decide what you think the missing words are in his tips.



- 1 Always order the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Never eat the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Have the vegetarian option—but not in a \_\_\_\_\_ restaurant.
- 4 Never sit at a table \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Insist on \_\_\_\_\_ water.
- 6 How to \_\_\_\_\_—and get a result.
- 7 Be nice to the \_\_\_\_\_.

- b 9.15 Listen once and complete the tips. Did you guess any of them right?

- c Listen again. Why does he mention the following?

- ordering steak in a restaurant
- an ex-girlfriend of his
- meat-eating chefs
- smokers
- bottled water
- free main courses
- waitresses and foreign staff

#### LEXIS IN CONTEXT

- d 9.16 Listen to some extracts from the book and try to complete the missing words. How do you think they are spelled and what do you think they mean?

- 1 It's often \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare and very smelly to cook.
- 2 So, whenever we meet for dinner, she is utterly starving and \_\_\_\_\_ up the entire bread basket and three pats of butter without pausing for breath.
- 3 But in an expensive place with a TV chef and a whole range of exciting things to \_\_\_\_\_ on for the next couple of hours...
- 4 ...personally I would much rather restaurants focused on doing one or two things brilliantly than offered a whole load of \_\_\_\_\_ that was just about OK.
- 5 "I'm awfully sorry to make a \_\_\_\_\_," you might say, "but this fish really isn't as fresh as I'd hoped."

- e In groups, discuss the questions.

- 1 Do you agree with Giles Coren's tips? Are there any other tips that you could give visitors to your country that would help them to get the most out of local food and restaurants?
- 2 Where would you recommend eating out...?
  - for a weekday lunch
  - to celebrate a friend's birthday
  - with a wealthy relative
- 3 Think of a good meal out you've had. Where was it? Who were you with? Can you remember what you had to eat and drink?
- 4 Have you ever had a disastrous meal out? Why was it so awful?
- 5 In general, do you think that eating out is good value in your country? Why (not)?



### 4 WRITING

p.126 **Writing A complaint** Analyze a model email and write an email of complaint to a hotel.



## 5 GRAMMAR

nouns: compound and possessive forms

- a Circle the correct phrase in each pair. If you think both are possible, explain the difference between them, if any.

- 1 a recipe book / a recipe's book
- 2 a tuna salad / a salad of tuna
- 3 children's servings / children servings
- 4 a coffee cup / a cup of coffee
- 5 a chef hat / a chef's hat
- 6 a can opener / a cans opener
- 7 James' kitchen / James's kitchen
- 8 a John's friend / a friend of John's

- b **G p.159 Grammar Bank 9B** Learn more about compound nouns and possessive forms, and practice them.

## 6 READING

- a Read the introduction to an article. What exactly is "comfort food"? Do you have an equivalent expression in your language?
- b Now read about five people describing their comfort food and fill in the blanks for 1–5 with sentences A–F below. There is one sentence you don't need.
- A Who am I kidding, it's still great.
  - B The kitchen is where the love comes from.
  - C It's when this connection between a dish and a certain context comes together that food makes most sense and is comforting to me.
  - D Nobody has ever made it quite like my mother used to.
  - E It's one of those dishes that seems so simple, but takes years of practice to perfect.
  - F It was light, but incredibly comforting.

### Glossary

**Ladbroke Grove** a road and an area in west London

**Dalston** an area in northeast London

# Well-known faces reveal their ultimate comfort food

Comfort food takes us somewhere safe and cozy and simple. Many of the things we eat have a unique ability to transport us – a fresh tomato salad with basil and peppery olive oil can help us re-experience, for a moment, a long-gone summer in Tuscany. Comfort food can also take us back to our childhood and remind us of exactly who we are. A photograph is good at doing that, but the way something tastes is the greatest, most comforting time machine of all.



### Goldie, musician

Growing up in a children's home, I got used to the kind of meals that work for feeding 25 to 30 kids—things like sausage and mash, bacon and eggs—but I first associated comfort with food when I'd go home at the weekends and visit the Jamaican side of the family. The smell of Jamaican cooking, be it in a home kitchen, a patty shop in Ladbroke Grove or Junior's Caribbean takeaway in Dalston is, to me, home. And home means comfort. <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. The smells, the pots and pans, all the dried and fresh ingredients, the heat from the Scotch bonnet chilis catching your throat, it's all so beautiful.



1



### Beth Ditto, singer

If we're talking homemade dishes, it has to be biscuits and gravy, southern-style. My mom makes the most incredible <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. Biscuits and gravy is a long process and when my mom, a nurse who worked a lot and was gone on weekends and holidays, took the time to make that for us seven kids, it made us feel taken care of.







### Cornelia Parker, artist

Something like fish soup rates high on the comfort-food list for me. A *bouillabaisse*, or a fish stew—anything wet with fish in it, really. If I see something soupy and fishy like that on a menu, I have to have it. I went to Portugal at the beginning of the summer and we went to the same restaurant every night of the week, as you do, and I had monkfish stew four nights out of six. <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.



3



### Yotam Ottolenghi, chef

Comfort food is about eating the right food in the right place at the right time. <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. In this way, any food can be comforting depending on the time and place, whether that's a can of smoked oysters for breakfast or pasta at the end of the day. But my true comfort dish, I think, would be brown rice with miso vegetables.



4



### Azealia Banks, singer

If we're talking guilty, comforting pleasures, mine has to be candy. Particularly Haribo gummy bears. As well as candy, I love steak. It's a guilty pleasure because red meat is so bad for you! When I was a kid, I used to really love McDonald's. <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.



5

## LEXIS IN CONTEXT

c Read the article again. Write the food words for photos 1–5.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

d Underline all the other types of food mentioned in the article. With a partner, say what you think they mean. Check with your teacher or with a dictionary.

e Work in groups and answer the questions?

- Is there any food that the people mentioned that you also find comforting? Why?
- What are your comfort foods?
- What do they remind you of?
- How do they make you feel?
- How often do you eat them?
- Where do you eat them, and who with?

## 7 VOCABULARY food adjectives with -y

### 🔍 Making food words into adjectives

A fresh tomato salad with basil and peppery olive oil.

A lot of food words can be made into adjectives by adding -y. Common examples include *buttery*, *cheesy*, *chocolatey*, *creamy*, *fishy*, *fruity*, *herby*, *lemony*, *meaty*, *minty*, *peppery*, *salty*, *spicy*, *sugary*, and *watery*.

a Which of the adjectives in the box might you use to describe...?

a cake coffee Indian food pizza  
a sauce soup a stew toothpaste

b Tell your partner about five things you really like or dislike eating or drinking using adjectives from the box.

( I love really fruity drinks.



# WRITING A COMPLAINT

## KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- summarizing the issue clearly
- maintaining an assertive but respectful tone
- being clear and reasonable about what you expect to be done

## ANALYZING A MODEL TEXT

- a Have you ever had a very bad experience at a restaurant or a hotel? What happened? Did you make a complaint either in person or in writing? What response did you get?
- b Read the model formal email. What exactly is the complaint about?

To: manager@fiorellis-nyc.net  
From: a.knight10798@gmail.com  
Subject: Complaint

Dear Sir or Madam,

- 1 I am writing to complain about the meal that my husband and I had on Thursday, March 16th, at Fiorelli's on Riverside Street. 1 \_\_\_\_\_ that the dinner 2 \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 First of all, according to our online reservation, the table was booked for 7:00 and we 3 \_\_\_\_\_ leave the table by 9:00, which we 4 \_\_\_\_\_. However, the service was extremely slow and at 8:45, we had only just been brought our dessert. At this point, the waiter not only brought us the check, but also asked us to hurry because he would need the table back very soon. This left us feeling extremely 5 \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Second, when we were ordering our meal, the waiter recommended several dishes that were not on the menu and we both chose *tagliatelli al tartufo*. We assumed that the price of this item would be in line with those on the menu, 6 \_\_\_\_\_, between \$10 and \$15. However, when the waiter brought the check, we discovered that 7 \_\_\_\_\_ a total of \$50, making them more than twice as expensive. When we complained to the waiter, he said that we should have asked the price when we ordered; however, in my opinion the waiter himself should have pointed out that this dish was considerably more expensive than the other choices.
- 4 I feel strongly that if customers are given a table that has a time limit, the service should be efficient enough to ensure that 8 \_\_\_\_\_ within that time. I also think that, while it is understandable that some of the daily "specials" may be more expensive because of the ingredients used, this should always be made clear from the start.
- 5 Under the circumstances, we believe that 9 \_\_\_\_\_ and that we should receive 10 \_\_\_\_\_. I look forward to hearing your views on this matter.

Respectfully,  
Andrew Knight

- c With a partner, discuss which phrase, **a** or **b**, is better for each blank and why.

- 1 a I'm sorry to say  
b I am afraid to say
- 2 a did not live up to our expectations  
b was a complete disaster
- 3 a were requested to  
b were told we had to
- 4 a thought was OK  
b considered reasonable
- 5 a fed up  
b dissatisfied
- 6 a that is to say  
b I mean
- 7 a we had been charged  
b you had charged us
- 8 a they can eat their food  
b their meal can easily be completed
- 9 a we are owed an apology  
b you ought to say sorry
- 10 a some form of compensation  
b a lot of money back



## USEFUL LANGUAGE

- d Can you remember how the writer expressed the following in a more formal way? Then look at the text again to check your answers.

- 1 In this letter I want to complain...  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 It said on our online booking...  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 The waiter gave us the check and asked us to hurry.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 I really think that if customers are given a table...  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 I'd like to know what you think about this.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PLANNING WHAT TO WRITE

- a Read part of a website post by Hannah. What problems did she have at the Westfield Hotel?



**Hannah Jones**  
2 hours ago

Just got back from Florida. That's the last time we stay at the Westfield Hotel! We stayed there a couple of years ago and had a good time, so I booked again for a week in April. The website described it just as I remembered it and said you could order food from the hotel kitchen in the evening—you know what a pain it is to have to go out with the kids, much easier to get room service—so I just went ahead and booked. Anyway, when we got there we were totally speechless! The kitchen and restaurant were under construction and they said that in fact they didn't do any food except for breakfast because of the construction. It was too late to find anywhere else, so we decided to stay, but it was a nightmare. The constructions workers started making noise at 7:30 in the morning, the breakfast was horrible—just cold food because the kitchen wasn't up and running—and we had to buy drinks and sandwiches from a nearby fast-food restaurant and take them back to our room in the evening for dinner. I tried to complain, but somehow the manager was never there, only the reception staff who weren't really responsible and obviously felt sorry for us. So I'm going to email the manager and if I don't hear anything, I'm definitely going to put something on Twitter...

Like • Comment • Share

- b You are going to write Hannah's email to the Westfield Hotel. With a partner:

- underline the relevant information in the website post.
- summarize exactly what you are dissatisfied with.
- discuss what it would be reasonable for the hotel to do to compensate you for the inconvenience.
- invent any other details you think might be important to include in the email, for example, the exact dates of your stay, the room number, etc.

### TIPS for writing an email or letter of complaint:

- Make a note of all the relevant details you want to include before you start drafting your email.
- Decide what action you want the person you are writing to take.
- Use appropriate expressions for opening and closing the email.
- Use a formal style and be clear and assertive, but not aggressive.
- Use the passive, e.g., *we were told*, *we are owed an apology*, etc., to make it more impersonal, or to make it clear that you are not accusing individuals.
- Use a variety of expressions for generalizing and making suggestions.

## WRITING

Write an email of complaint of between 200 and 250 words.

### DRAFT your email.

- Introduction: Explain why you are writing.
- Main paragraphs: Say what the complaint relates to and give the details.
- Summary paragraph: Restate your complaints briefly.
- Closing sentences: Ask for some action from the hotel.

**EDIT** the email, checking paragraphing, cutting any irrelevant information, and making sure it is the right length.

**CHECK** the email for mistakes in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and register.

← p.91



## apostrophe s

- I borrowed my **father's** car. I accidentally stepped on the **cat's** tail. The **company's** main office is in New York.
- It's my **friends'** wedding. That's the **children's** room. The blond girl is **Alex and Maria's** daughter.
- We had dinner at **Tom's** last night. My mother is at the **doctor's**.
- They played terribly in last **Saturday's** game. She spent a **month's** pay for those shoes!

Possessive forms express the idea of "having" (in a very general sense) that exists between two nouns.

- We usually use a possessive noun (+ 's) when something belongs to or is a characteristic of a particular person or thing.
  - If a name (or singular noun) finishes in s, we either put an apostrophe at the end of the word or add 's, e.g., *Chris' book* or *Chris's book*.
- With plural nouns we put the apostrophe after the s, e.g., *friends'*. With irregular plurals that don't end in s (*people, children, men*, etc.) we add 's.
- If there are two people, we put the 's on the second name.
- When 's refers to premises, e.g., "the house of" or "the store of," we often omit, e.g., *house* or *store*.
- We often use 's or s' with time expressions, e.g., *yesterday's news, a week's vacation*.

## using of (instead of apostrophe s)

- Can you remember the name **of** the movie?  
My brother lives at the end **of** the road.  
The problems **of** old age are many and varied.
- Tarik is the brother **of** my cousin in Turkey I told you about.
- Laura is a friend **of** my sister's.

- We usually use an of phrase, not 's, with things or abstract nouns.
- We tend to use of and not 's to express possession with a long phrase, e.g., NOT *my cousin in Turkey I told you about's brother*.
- With *friend, colleague*, etc., we often say, e.g., *a friend of + name / noun + 's* (= one of my sister's friends).

## compound nouns

- I need the **can opener**. Do you know where it is?  
I bought a huge **flowerpot** at a **garden center** near my house.  
My brother is a **company director** and my sister is a **history teacher**.  
I opened the **car door**, got in, and put on my **seat belt**.
- I bought my son a new **story book**.  
What does that **road sign** mean?
- There was a **carton of milk** on the table and two **soda cans**.

- We use compound nouns to express many common ideas in English. The first noun modifies or describes the second noun. *can opener* = an opener for cans, *history teacher* = a teacher of history. The first noun is usually singular, unless it has no singular form, e.g., *clothes*, but the second noun can be singular or plural.

### One word, two words, or hyphenated?

Compound nouns are usually two separate words, but they are sometimes joined together as one word, e.g., *sunglasses, bathroom*, or occasionally hyphenated, e.g., *house-hunter, fortune-teller*.

- We use compound nouns to describe a common class of object or person. Compare:  
*a story book* BUT *a book about house decoration*  
*a road sign* BUT *a sign of the times*
- With containers, a compound noun (e.g., *a milk carton*) focuses on the container (usually empty), whereas the container + possessive noun (*a carton of milk*) focuses on the contents (the container is usually full).
- Other common examples are *a soda can / a can of soda, a jam jar / a jar of jam, a tuna can / a can of tuna, a matchbox / a box of matches*, etc.

- Circle** the right option. Check (✓) if both are possible.  
Let's make chicken soup / *soup of chicken* for dinner tonight.
  - I enjoy spending time with *my friend's children* / *my friends' children*.
  - Didn't I meet you at *Jenny's* / *at Jenny's house* one night?
  - The hero dies at *the end of the movie* / *the movie's end*.
  - She's *the wife of my friend who lives in Australia* / *my friend who lives in Australia's wife*.
  - I want to introduce you to Jake. He's a *colleague of my sister's* / *a my sister's colleague*.
  - When you go to the supermarket, can you buy me *a milk carton* / *a carton of milk*?
  - The *photo of the house* / *house's photo* made me want to buy it.
  - I'm looking for a *stories book* / *story book* that would be good for an eight-year-old.
  - We found *an old photograph box* / *a box of old photographs* in the attic.
  - The Tower of London is one of *London's most popular tourist attractions* / *the most popular tourist attractions in London*.
  - There's *a soda can* / *a can of soda* on the table. Did you leave it there?

- Look at the sentences you have checked. Is there any difference between the two phrases?

- Complete with a compound or possessive noun using a word from each list and 's or ' where necessary.

Alice and James bottle cats children dessert  
garage government marketing ocean today

bedroom bowls door list menu manager  
opener proposal view wedding

I always leave the light on in the children's bedroom—my youngest child is scared of the dark.

- I can't find the \_\_\_\_\_. It's usually in this drawer, but it's not there now.
- It's \_\_\_\_\_ next week and I don't have anything to wear yet.
- I'm in the mood for something sweet. Could I see the \_\_\_\_\_, please?
- A** There's avocado toast on \_\_\_\_\_.  
**B** Great—my favorite!
- Can I introduce you to Jenny White, our \_\_\_\_\_? She's been with our company for six years.
- Don't forget to lock the \_\_\_\_\_ when you take the car out.
- We would like a room with an \_\_\_\_\_, if that's possible.
- Fraud and abuse have been discovered in the \_\_\_\_\_ providing relief funds for storm victims.
- Make sure you fill the \_\_\_\_\_ with water every day.



### 1 HOW FOOD IS PREPARED

a Match the words and pictures.

- ☐ baked figs
- ☐ barbecued ribs
- ☐ boiled rice
- ☐ 1 chopped parsley
- ☐ deep-fried onion rings
- ☐ grated cheese
- ☐ grilled fillet of fish
- ☐ ground beef
- ☐ mashed potatoes
- ☐ melled chocolate
- ☐ peeled shrimp
- ☐ poached egg
- ☐ roasted lamb
- ☐ scrambled eggs
- ☐ sliced bread
- ☐ steamed mussels
- ☐ stewed plums
- ☐ stuffed chicken breast
- ☐ toasted bagel
- ☐ whipped cream

b 9.11 Listen and check.



### 2 UTENSILS

a Match the words and pictures.

- ☐ a baking tray /'beɪkɪŋ treɪ/
- ☐ 1 a colander /'kɒləndər/
- ☐ a cutting board /'kʌtɪŋ bɔːd/
- ☐ a frying pan /'fraɪɪŋ pæn/
- ☐ a food processor /fud 'prəsesər/
- ☐ a kettle /'ketl/
- ☐ a (mixing) bowl /'mɪksɪŋ boʊl/
- ☐ a saucepan /'sɔːspæn/ (or pot) /pɒt/
- ☐ a sieve /sɪv/
- ☐ a whisk /wɪsk/



#### pots and pans

This phrase is often used to refer to a mixture of cooking utensils. A pot is any kind of deep round container used for cooking.

**ACTIVATION** Have you had any food recently that was prepared in any of the ways in 1?

Which of the utensils in 2 might you need to make...?

an omelet spaghetti cookies

Are there any of the other utensils you'd use?

b 9.12 Listen and check.

p.90