

Communicative worksheet

Describing dishes

1 Explain to students that it is the year 2060 and life has been discovered on Venus and Mars. In fact, they have discovered that Martians and Venusians are great and original cooks. Divide the class into A pairs and B pairs and hand out the appropriate A or B menu card to each pair.

Ask students to look at their menus. Brainstorm as many words and phrases as you can from the class to describe the dishes they see and write them on the board.

Alternative activity

Describe some of the dishes yourself and ask students to say which dish you are describing. This makes for a fun 'live listening' and models language students could use later in the lesson.

2 Hand out the Student A and Student B cards to A and B pairs. Ask students to prepare descriptions of their dishes in pairs.

3 Mix pairs so that the class is made up of A/B pairs with different menu cards. Ask pairs to decide who is the customer and who the waiter. Then ask them to act out their restaurant conversation. Students change roles when they have finished.

With a strong class, ask students to improvise the conversation in pairs.

With a weaker class, ask students to work in pairs to prepare and write a conversation before acting out.

4 Ask some pairs to act out their improvised or prepared conversation for the class. To create a task for the class, write the following question on the board, and ask students to listen and find the answers:

What does the customer order?

5 Personalise

Ask students to describe an unusual restaurant they have been to. Ask:

What was unusual on the menu?

What did the food look/taste like?

6 Writing

Ask students to write a menu for a restaurant serving food from their country. Tell them to imagine that Martians and Venusians may come to their restaurant so they will need to write a short description of the ingredients, style of cooking and taste of each dish.