Maturita Card 5: Food



· What is your favourite food?

I like / love / can't get enough of...pasta / Czech food / spicy food / chips (=French fries AmE) / Chinese food / Japanese food.

What do you think is the most important meal of the day?

I think / believe / In my opinion...breakfast / lunch / dinner is the most important meal of the day.

What time do you usually have your meals? How are these times the same or different to other people in your country?

I usually / often have breakfast / lunch / dinner at... o'clock. This is typical / normal...for people in my country. This is different because most people eat earlier / later.

· How often do you go to restaurants?

I never / rarely / sometimes / often go to a restaurant. I go... once a week / month / only on special occasions with my family / alone. I / We usually go to...a Czech / Italian / Chinese / fast food restaurant / a food court. I prefer to stay at home.

What's your favourite drink (alcoholic/ non-alcoholic)?

I like / love / can't get enough of beer / wine / Coke / soft drinks / fruit juice / mineral water / coffee / tea / herbal tea / milk / milk shakes or sports drinks.

How would you describe typical Czech / British / American etc. cuisine (way of cooking)?

Czech food is often...heavy / greasy / fatty / delicious / filling / meaty / salty... is served with dumplings / potatoes. Typical Czech food is goulash with dumplings. American food usually comes in big servings. Typical American food is...steak and salad / hamburger and French fries. British food is traditionally...bland / boring / hearty. Typical British food is...fish and chips / roast beef and vegetables.

What kind of food is healthy / unhealthy and why?

Unhealthy food is ...fatty / high in fat / salty / high in salt / high in added sugar / low in fibre / low in vitamins... has preservatives and artificial colours and flavours is...prepared / frozen / comes from a can. Healthy food is...fresh / free of chemicals and additives / low in fat / sugar and salt / high in fibre / vitamins and minerals.

· Can you describe a healthy diet?

A balanced diet should…be low in fat / sugar / salt and high in fibre / vitamins and minerals / include all five food groups / be enough for your daily needs / not be too much.

Do you watch TV programmes about cooking or read cookbooks?

I never / rarely / sometimes / often...watch programmes about cooking / read cookbooks. I like to learn about new recipes / new cuisines. I love to see food. I have no interest in food.

· Can you cook? What is your speciality?

I can cook (a little). I can make...spaghetti bolognaise / beef goulash / toasted sandwiches / salad / a hot dog.

· Can you explain your speciality?

Chop vegetables / onions / cut meat / chicken into pieces. Fry onions / meat in oil. Add spices / sauce. Place slices of cheese / ham on bread. Boil potatoes / pasta / dumplings. Put vegetables in a bowl. Steam sausages.

What cuisine other than Czech, American or British have you tried? Can you describe the taste?

I've had / tried / tasted...Chinese / Japanese / Italian / Mexican / French. It is...delicious / spicy / greasy / heavy / light / tasty / salty / strange / disgusting.

Is there anything that you would never eat / can't eat and why?

I would never eat... veal / seafood / fish / dog / horse... because I think it's cruel / wrong / I don't like the idea. I can't eat... dairy products / nuts / chocolate / strawberries / seafood... because I'm allergic to them / I have an allergy / I'm on a diet / My doctor said I can't.

Do you have any special table manners in your country? How different are they from table manners in other countries?

You mustn't / It's forbidden... to slurp your food / smack your lips / speak with your mouth full. You should... leave your napkin on the table / not have your elbows on the table. In America and Britain they put their napkins on their lap.

Do you not eat meat? Are you a vegetarian (and avoid both white and red meat)? Or are you vegan (meaning no animal products including dairy products and eggs)? Why? Why not?

I guess / suppose... I am a vegetarian... because I don't eat white or red meat but I still eat eggs and dairy products. I am a vegan... because I don't eat any animal products... because I think eating animals is cruel / wrong / unkind / unnecessary. I don't like the taste. I am not vegetarian / I eat meat because... I like it / I think it's healthy / necessary / natural.

When would you recommend that someone should go on a diet?

I would never recommend someone to go on a diet. I would recommend someone to go on a diet if they were very fat / had health problems. I think everyone should go on a diet.

