

EPISODE 71

LEVEL B2

READING COMPREHENSION



AT A RESTAURANT

I am always **full of beans** (very excited) when going out and eating out. However, being a student I often choose a small convenient bar just **to grab a bite to eat** (=a small meal), but my brother is just opposite he loves **lingering over** (spending more time over food) food and chooses posh restaurants where **settling up** (=paying what you owe on a bill) costs a fortune. Well, he can't expect much at home since his wife is a terrible cook. The last time I visited them for dinner, she left it in the oven for too long and unfortunately **it was burnt to a crisp** (=cooked too long). Well, my brother without much hesitation, decided to take us all to a new Italian pizzeria. No sooner had we opened the door than we could see beautifully decorated tables, **mouth-watering** (=looking and smelling good) snacks and lots of happy faces **polishing off** (=finishing) their delicious dishes. I was so starving I **could eat a horse** (very hungry), so in no time we were served by a really handsome waiter who gracefully presented the menu. No wonder that restaurant had a reputation for the best service ever and could get all its clients by **word of mouth** (recommendation).



EXERCISE 1

Decide if the sentences below are true or false. Correct the false ones.

1. When you settle up with somebody you don't pay the bill.
2. If food makes your mouth water it looks and smells so good you want to eat it.
3. If you polish off a pizza, you leave many leftovers.

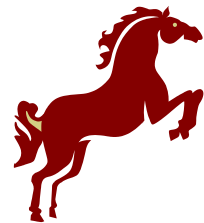
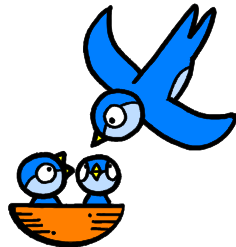
4. When you buy a product by word of mouth, it means you got to know about it from your colleagues.



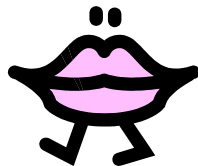
EXERCISE 2

Use the pictures to complete the questions. Then answer the questions.

1. Do you eat like a or like a?



2. Word of advertising is the most effective nowadays. Would you agree?



3. When are you full of in the morning or in the evening?



ENGLISH IN USE



The text says:

No sooner had we opened the door than we could see beautifully decorated tables...

Today I'd like to concentrate on the structure **NO SOONER** **THAN**

Generally speaking, this is the pattern of inversion in grammar. WE SOMETIMES PUT AN AUXILIARY VERB (in this case) HAD BEFORE THE SUBJECT IN STATEMENTS FOR ADDING EMPHASIS.

NO SOONER shows the first action in the past which we need to express using Past Perfect tense in a form of a question, while **THAN** introduces the second past action expressed in Past Simple Tense in a form of a statement.

Ex. 3

Practice:

1. No sooner.....(we / set out) than
.....(it/start) snowing.
2. No sooner(she / start) going to school than
.....(she / catch) a cold.
3. No sooner.....(they / take out) a loan than
.....(the interest rate / increase).
4. No sooner.....(I / graduate) from my studies than
.....(I / be offered) a prestigious job.

VOCABULARY

Ex. 4

Categorise the words into the following groups:

MEAT VEGETABLES FRUIT FISH HERBS SEA FOOD

trout aubergines spare ribs beans cauliflower celery cod saffron mutton
courgettes watermelon chives veal hake garlic lobster spinach mussels
peaches raspberries prawns dill horseradish radish redcurrant herring
venison parsley gooseberry sage pork partridge date artichoke poultry
nutmeg bay leaf oysters lime beef ginger

Discuss:

- Which is your favourite food?
- Which is the food you would serve for an exclusive dinner?
- Which food can you call an acquired taste?
- Which food you wouldn't know how to prepare and serve?

IDIOM CLOSE-UP



A/ My last job was hard enough but this one is awful – **it's out of the frying pan, into the fire!** I'm afraid...

B/ I know. It has never been worse I believe...

It's out of the frying pan, into the fire – we use this idiom to say that somebody was in a bad situation but now he is even in a worse one.

PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



Have a drink of milk **to wash down** the tablet. - to help you swallow it

Let's raise a glass and **drink to** a happy couple! - hold up a glass in order to wish someone success or happiness

Don't **gobble** your food **down**, take your time. - eat very fast

Eat lots of vegetables, they will **fill you up** without making you put on weight. – make you feel that you have eaten enough.

Make sure you are aware what foods **agree with you** and what don't. - make you feel good

EXERCISE 5

Name a food or drink which:



1. Often disagrees with you ...
2. Fills you up...
3. You can gobble up...
4. You need to wash down...

KEY TO EXERCISES

Ex. 1

1. False – you pay the bill
2. True
3. False – you finish it very quickly
4. True

Ex. 2

1. bird, horse
2. mouth
3. beans

Ex. 3

1. Had we set out..... it started
2. Had she startedshe caught
3. Had they taken out the interest rate was increased
4. Had I graduated I was offered

Ex. 4

Meat	Vegetables	Fruit	Fish	Herbs	Sea food
Spare ribs	Aubergines	Watermelon	Trout	Saffron	Lobster
Mutton	Beans	Peaches	Cod	Garlic	Mussels
Veal	Cauliflower	Raspberries	Hake	Dill	Prawns
Venison	Celery	Redcurrant	Herring	Parsley	oysters
Pork	Courgettes	Gooseberry		Sage	
Partridge	Chives	Date		Nutmeg	
Poultry	Spinach	Lime		Bay leaf	
Beef	Horseradish			Ginger	
	artichoke				
	radish				