***Unit 7***

Kitchen Staff

# Reading

The Choice of a Career

You are going to read a story of a person who has been a professional cook for three years. His name is Giles Mildmay. He is 24 years old. His father, George, owns a two-hundred-acre farm in Devon. The family have farmed in Devon for over three hundred years. Giles’ younger brother is studying farm management. Giles and his father talk about his choice of career.

Giles

I think I’ve always been interested in food. My grandparents (on my mother’s side) lived in a huge old manor house in Lincolnshire and they had a wonderful cook. She made fantastic standard English food; her roast beef and Yorkshire pudding was out of this world. I loved going down to the kitchen and watching her work, and I picked up a lot of cooking tips from her. When I was about 12 I realized that I wanted to be a cook when I grow up. I went to a boarding school and when other boys chose to do sport, I chose cookery. By the time I was 15, I had taken over the cooking at home for my parents’ dinner parties, and I had started to make up my own recipes.

I got on well with my parents, but I knew they would not approve of cooking as a career, so I decided to introduce them slowly to the idea. I told them that I wanted to do a cookery course for fun, and I went for a month to a hotel in Torquay. I enjoyed it so much. I knew I couldn’t put off telling my parents any longer, so I brought the subject up one night over dinner. At first there was silence, and then my father asked me why. I explained that cooking was like painting a picture or writing a book. Every meal was an act of creation. I could see that my father was not convinced, but he didn’t get angry, he just patted me on the shoulder and smiled. My mother kissed me. However, my grandfather (on my father’s side) is not so kind, he thinks I’m mad to have given up farming. He is disappointed that I didn’t take after him and work on the farm.

Giles’ father

I know that times have changed, but I was brought up with a butler and a cook to look after me, and I never went near the kitchen. I was taken aback at first when Giles announced what he wanted to do. His grandfather still hasn’t got over it, but his mother and I are delighted that he is doing something he enjoys. Nowadays anyone with a job that they enjoy is very lucky. Everything turned out for the best.

Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)?

* Giles got interested in cooking when he was a child.
* Giles wanted to be a cook because the meals were awfully bad at the boarding school.
* Giles’ father was very angry when Giles told him about the choice of career.
  + Giles’ grandfather has not forgiven Giles for becoming a cook. e Giles’ parents are happy that their son likes his job.

1. Answer the questions.

1. When and how did Giles get interested in food?

2. When did he realize that he wanted to be a cook?

3. When did he begin to make up his own recipes?

4. Why did he decide not to tell his parents about his choice of career at once?

5. Where did he take his first cookery course?

6. Why didn’t his family like the idea of his becoming a cook?

7. How did his family take the news about his choice of career?

8. Why did cooking attract Giles?

1. Use the following phrases in your own sentences:

a to be interested in smth

b be out of this world = good, enjoyable, unlike anything else you have ever experienced.

c a cooking tip = a helpful piece of advice on cooking a tip on cooking

a tip on how to do smth

* + to make up a recipe
* to approve of smth / doing smth
* to do a cookery course to do sport

to do something for fun

* to introduce somebody to somebody / something h to be delighted

# **Proverbs**

Join the parts of the following sentences to get 8 proverbs and sayings in which cooks, cooking and eating are mentioned. Give the corresponding Serbian proverbs and sayings.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a | Every cook |  | small roast. |
| b | Too many cooks |  | the sweeter the meat. |
| c | A watched pot |  | the best sauce. |
| d | Great boast, |  | spoil the broth. |
| e | There’s no use |  | than you can chew. |
| f | The proof of the pudding |  | praises his own broth. |
| g | Hunger is |  | is in the eating. |
| h | The nearer to the bone, |  | drink with measure. |
| i | Eat at pleasure |  | never boils. |
| j | Don’t bite off more |  | crying over spilt milk. |

1. Discuss with your fellow students how you decided to be a cook. Answer the following questions.
   1. When did you get interested in cooking?
   2. What and who influenced your choice of career?
   3. What did your parents want you to do?
   4. What was your parents’ attitude to the choice of career at first?
   5. Has the parents’ attitude changed? If so, why?