

**2016 specification**  
first exams in 2018

# Course Companion

For AQA GCSE (9–1) Food Preparation  
and Nutrition: Food Science

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# Teacher's Introduction

This resource is designed to meet the Food Science (3.3) element of the AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition qualification.

## What it covers

The resource comprises two chapters covering the following:

Chapter 1: 3.3.1 Cooking of food and heat transfer	Chapter 2: 3.3.2 Functional and chemical properties of food
<b>3.3.1.1</b> Why food is cooked and how heat is transferred to food	<b>3.3.2.1</b> Proteins
<b>3.3.1.2</b> Selecting appropriate cooking methods	<b>3.3.2.2</b> Carbohydrates
	<b>3.3.2.3</b> Fat and oils
	<b>3.3.2.4</b> Fruit and vegetables
	<b>3.3.2.5</b> Raising agents

## How to use this resource

The resource covers all aspects of Food Science and is designed to increase knowledge of the topic and enable learners to test their understanding and skills through a variety of assessment methods.

**Learning Outcomes** enable the learner to clearly see what they are expected to know at the end of each chapter.

The **Overview** provides a brief summary of what will be covered in the chapter and the **Key Terms** box provides information on key terms within the resource (key terms are emboldened within the chapter text).

<b>Did you know</b>	These boxes contain handy tips.
<b>Things to think about</b>	These boxes provide learners with a chance to develop cognitive skills, do some research (books, Internet, people) and take part in a discussion.
<b>Apply</b>	These boxes provide the learner with the opportunity to further their skills, either through cognitive or practical application.
<b>Qs</b>	Learners' knowledge and understanding is tested through quick Y/N questions.
<b>Skills</b>	Based on the suggested application of skills section of the AQA GCSE Food Preparation specification, these test learners' skills in food safety through practical application.
<b>Exam tip</b>	Useful tips are given to help the learner concentrate on important aspects that may appear in the final assessment.
<b>Check your understanding</b>	Multiple-choice questions and longer open questions, similar to Section A and Section B of the AQA GCSE paper, appear at the end of each section to test knowledge and understanding.
<b>Quiz-ine</b>	There is a crossword-style quiz at the end of each chapter to test learners' understanding of key terms used within the resource. The shaded squares spell out a word associated with the chapter text.
<b>Answers</b>	Answers to questions are provided at the end of the resource.

## Free Updates!

M Golebiowska, April 2017

Register your email address to receive any future free updates\* made to this resource or other Food and Nutrition resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

\* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

Go to [zzed.uk/freeupdates](https://www.zzed.uk/freeupdates)

# Chapter 1: Cooking of Food and H

## Overview

In this chapter you will learn why we cook food and what different methods of cooking are, and you will discover how different cooking and preparation methods affect the food and change its features. You will also learn the difference between conduction, convection and radiation, and know where they are applied.

## Learning Outcomes

After studying this chapter you should be able to do the fo

- ☐ identify the main reasons behind cooking food
- ☐ identify foods that cannot be eaten raw and reasons
- ☐ learn how cooking affects foods' features such as ap
- ☐ learn how preparation affects foods' features and nu
- ☐ define what conduction, convection and radiation are
- ☐ know how conduction, convection and radiation work
- ☐ indicate thermal processes that take place while co
- ☐ link to an appropriate cooking and preparation meth

## Key Terms

<b>Conduction</b>	The process of exchanging heat between two objects of different temperature, without the use of any means such as water or air (thus the objects must touch each other); this is a direct way of transferring heat
<b>Convection</b>	A process of exchanging heat between two objects through a fluid (liquid or gas); this is an indirect way of transferring heat
<b>Radiation</b>	A process in which a wave of heat is being sent without the need for a medium; this is an indirect way of transferring heat
<b>Food safety</b>	All conditions and actions taken to make food safe to eat
<b>Maillard reaction</b>	A chemical reaction during which proteins react with sugars
<b>Microwaves</b>	Type of electromagnetic waves with the frequencies between 300 MHz and 300 GHz, used, for example, in microwave ovens
<b>Infrared</b>	Type of invisible radiation emitted by all living organisms

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### 3.3.1.1 Why Food is Cooked

There is no doubt that the discovery of fire gave a huge advantage to the mankind on Earth. It gives light, warmth, protects from predators, and – most importantly – a significant change and probably one of the reasons behind humankind's evolution.

#### The reasons why food is cooked

Food is cooked not just to taste nice, but to make it safe, change the textures, to extend the life of the food and to provide variety in our diets. Let's discover some of these reasons why food is cooked in a bit more depth.

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#### To make food safe to eat

One of the greatest advantages of cooking is that it makes our food **safe to eat** by killing bacteria and destroying harmful substances.



*Salmonella* is a species of bacteria known to cause gastric problems. Symptoms of infection include stomach ache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea. It is commonly found in eggs, poultry and meat, milk, and products that contain raw eggs and creams. For this reason it is not advisable to eat these products. Also it is better not to freeze again once food has been defrosted because it allows bacteria to grow.

#### Exam tip



Cooking is a way to ensure **food safety**.

Other bacteria found in food include *Escherichia coli* (which usually live in our bowels but are poisonous when in food), *Shigella* (which causes dysentery), and *Yersinia enterocolitica* (which causes symptoms similar to Salmonella).

One of the most dangerous bacteria found in food is *Clostridium botulinum*, which produces a toxin that paralyses the nerves and may lead to death (if it paralyses the intercostal muscles responsible for breathing). Happily, there is a visible sign of its presence – if the lid of a tuna or meat preserve can is bulging, you definitely should not eat its contents.

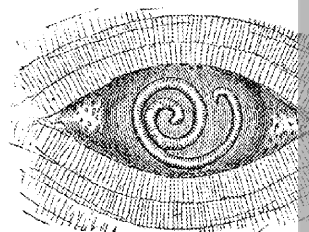
Most bacteria are killed at temperatures over 65 °C. Cooking food in temperature for an appropriate time ensures that all the bacteria and spores are neutralised.

Other poisonous agents in food include toxins, pesticides, enzymes, mycotoxins and

- Solanine is a green-coloured toxin present in potatoes, green tomatoes and other nightshade foods. Eating them raw may cause stomach ache, diarrhoea or fever, so it is important to cook them thoroughly to avoid such troubles.
- Aflatoxin is a harmful substance produced by moulds. It is often found in peanuts, grains and other products which were stored in improper conditions. They are very toxic and can lead to liver inflammation, genetic mutations and cancer.

#### Did you know?

Wild boars are carriers of the *Trichinella spiralis* parasite and therefore their meat cannot be eaten raw!



*Trichinella spiralis* is a parasite living in muscle cells which causes trichinosis if eaten. Symptoms of infection include very high fever, shivering, muscle pains. To prevent that, all meat is carefully cooked before it can find its way to shops.

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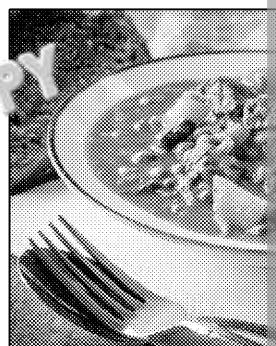
### To develop flavours and smells

Cooking allows development of flavours in a number of ways:

- it evaporates water and therefore makes the flavour of its residue more pronounced
- it causes sugars to caramelise, which is especially advantageous in such products as jams and even certain vegetables, such as onion or carrot
- during cooking, smelling molecules evaporate and make the smell more interesting
- present in foods are called essential oils (present in large amounts in, for example, citrus fruits)
- it allows combination of different ingredients, which leads to developing new flavours



*This plum chutney uses both caramelisation and water evaporation to obtain its strong flavour.*



*Traditional Irish stew is cooked slowly, which allows the food to develop its characteristic texture, flavour and smell.*

Cooking allows us to create the pronounced flavour of stews, jams, sauces or chutneys. Breaking down the structure of cells and freeing the aromatic chemical compounds from the ingredients is also helpful in developing the desired flavour and smells, e.g. by adding spices.

### To improve texture and aid digestion

You have probably noticed that cooked meat is not only easier to cut, but also to bite and chew. This is because cooking softens and loosens muscle fibres, which makes the meat softer. Also, during cooking, fat melts and penetrates the meat, making it juicy. This is not only important for your taste buds, but also makes it much easier to eat for those who cannot bite or chew, or experience various digestive issues: babies, elderly, and people suffering from Crohn's disease or Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), etc.

Cooking (especially frying, grilling and baking) also makes certain foods crunchy/crispy – which is more desirable by some. This includes meats, bread and pastries, chips and crisps.

During cooking some foods change their physical state – from liquid to solid (or the other way around). You can obtain the desired texture by simply adjusting cooking time: 6–8 minutes for a soft-boiled egg and 10 minutes for a hard-boiled one, or 10 minutes for a thin sauce and 30 minutes for a thicker one.

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### Things to think about

Identify some foods which are difficult to digest and discuss how modification of cooking could aid digestion.

### To improve shelf life

Applying high temperatures is a great way of preserving food. This is because most harmful microorganism species die in temperatures above 65 °C. For that reason, cooking kills most of the bacteria or mould normally present in food and prevents **spoilage**. This way, if correctly stored, food can last longer and maintain all of its nutritional values.



### Things to think about

*for discussion and thought*

1. Discuss the 'use by' and/or 'best before' dates of various food items that are stored differently. For example, fresh fish, frozen fish and tinned fish. Note down whether the food items are cooked or not and how this impacts on the longevity of the food.
2. Discuss why some cooked foods and raw foods have a 'use by' date or a 'best before' date.

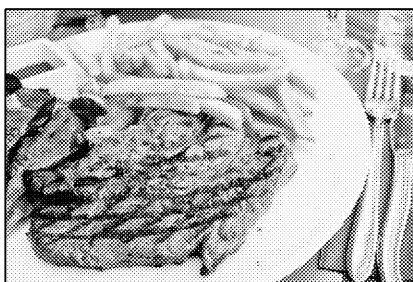
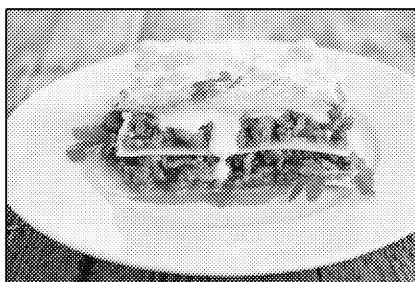


### To give food variety

Cooking also allows us to have variety in our diets. This is because of two reasons:

- Different cooking techniques allow us to prepare the same product in a number of ways; for example, fried, baked, boiled, etc.
- Different combinations of foods, seasoning, herbs and spices make it possible to create a large number of different dishes with the use of the same main ingredient.

For example, beef can be used to prepare carpaccio, steaks, burgers, stews, soups (such as bolognese sauce), and so on.



*Lasagne, steak and burger are examples of foods made with the use of beef, but all have unique ways they are prepared and cooked and the combinations of other ingredients.*



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## How cooking affects food

Cooking affects food both externally (which makes it look different) and internally (which changes its features such as texture). Cooking also affects nutritional value of foods. That's because certain micronutrients – such as group B vitamin, vitamin C and vitamin A, are very sensitive to temperature and break down during cooking.

### Nutritional value

High temperature, pressure, time of cooking, fragmentation, contact with oxygen in the air – all these factors can affect nutritional value of foods. Most vitamins are damaged by high temperatures; for example, 50% of vitamin B6 and 70% of folate will be damaged during cooking. It is also important to remember that some vitamins are water-soluble. This means that they will dissolve in water during boiling and will be lost if the water is drained.

### Appearance

The look of food changes depending on ingredients and cooking methods used. In meats, protein fibres will shrink and push out water (or jus), so the meat would become smaller. Denaturation and coagulation will cause eggs and pastry to set and become solid. Dough and cake will rise – either due to yeast or chemical leavening agents producing carbon dioxide. Rice, pasta and other starchy foods will absorb water and increase in size.

### Colour

The colour of the food usually changes due to the Maillard reaction, caramelisation and dextrinisation, which cause the food to become golden or brown. Some vegetables, such as red cabbage or beetroots, would lose their purple colour and become blue or brown if cooked for too long – the colour may then be restored by adding an acid, such as vinegar. Green vegetables, such as spinach or broccoli, may lose their colour and become dull. To avoid this, they should be cooked for a short time only, and preferably in a lidded pan.

### Texture

High temperature causes food ingredients to change their chemical structure. Different ingredients (meat, vegetables, fruit, rice or pasta), while others will become crispy and crunchy. Starch gelatinisation and water evaporation will cause sauces to thicken. Coagulation of proteins will cause eggs to set and change from liquid to solid. Dough and cakes will rise due to carbon dioxide, air or steam action. Sugar will caramelise and create a crunchy texture.

### Smell

The smell of hot foods is usually more pronounced than cold foods. That is because hot foods are evaporating and filling the air, which makes them easier to smell. You can smell a cake baking in the oven or a stew.

### Flavour

The flavour of food may change due to changes in chemical structure or due to added flavourings. During cooking, starch will dextrinise giving a slight sweet taste, while meat will develop a deeper, buttery or nutty taste. A complex chemical reaction called the 'Maillard reaction' produces numerous chemical compounds which change the flavour of coffee or cocoa to slightly different notes.

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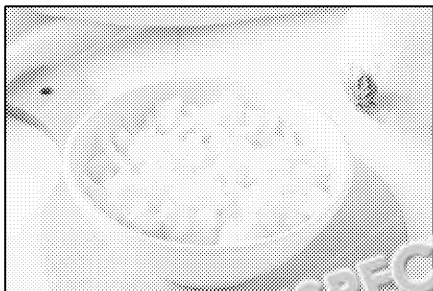
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## Palatability

Various chemical reactions which take place during cooking affect all of the food properties. The quality of a food that a food is pleasurable is called palatability. It could be described by such terms as taste, texture, appearance, crispiness and usually will make food appetising and desirable to the consumer.



Raw onion which is crisp.

During cooking, sugar in onion caramelises, which causes the onion to change colour and taste (fried onion is sweet). Some of the sulfur-based compounds present in the onion are broken down so the smell will be sweeter and more gentle. The onion also becomes softer – that's because some of the fibres in its cell walls are broken down. Cooked onion will have less vitamin C than raw onion.

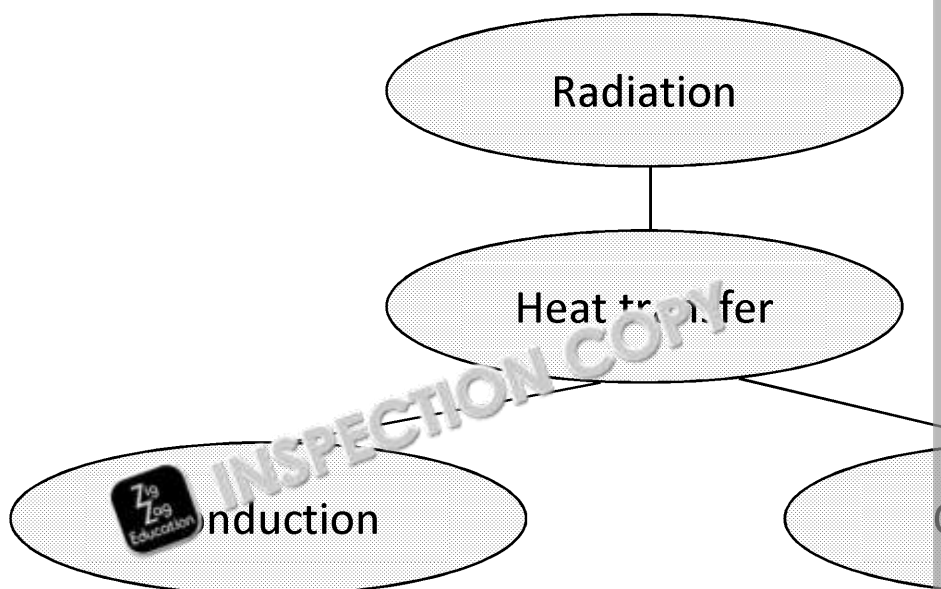
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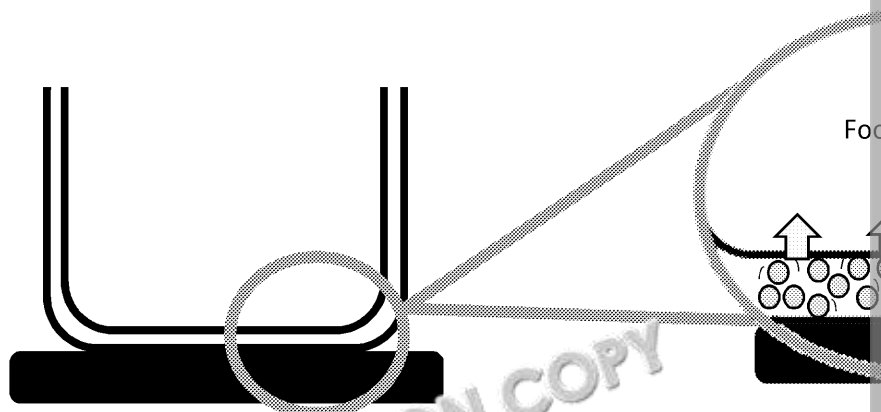
## Different methods of heat transfer

There are three ways in which heat is transferred to food. These are conduction,

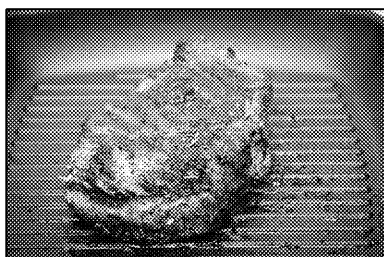


### Conduction

The hotter the substance is, the faster its molecules move. That rule is applied in conduction cooking. Heat from the hob is transferred directly to a pan or pot you're cooking in. The molecules of the metal vibrate, and give their energy to surrounding molecules – in this case, molecules of food in the pan. The heat (energy) is transmitted directly, which means that the two objects (the pan and the food) have to touch each other.



Heat causes metal particles to vibrate in the saucepan and causes food molecules to vibrate, transferring energy and heats the food.



Simmering a stew, frying a steak or cooking a curry in a pan are using conduction

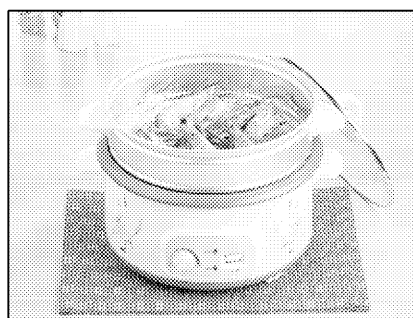
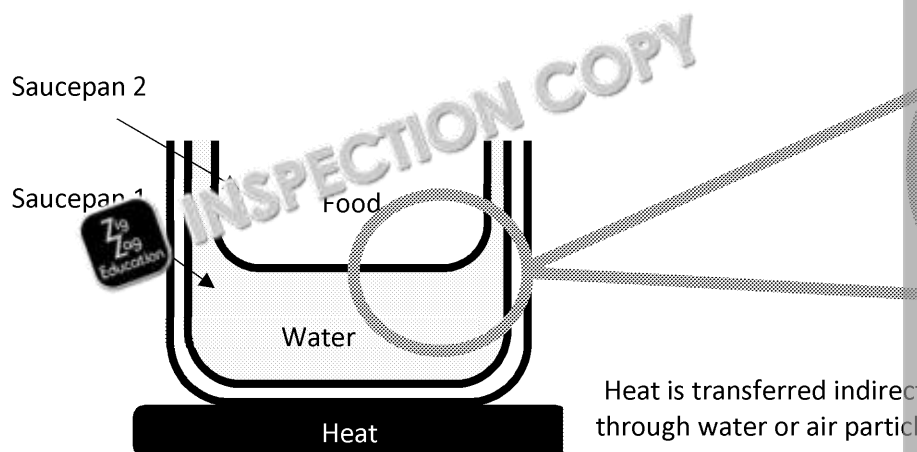
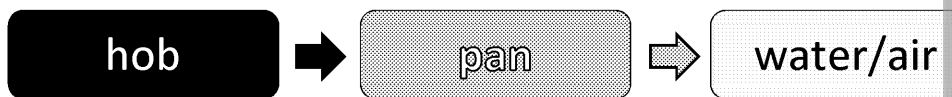
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## Convection

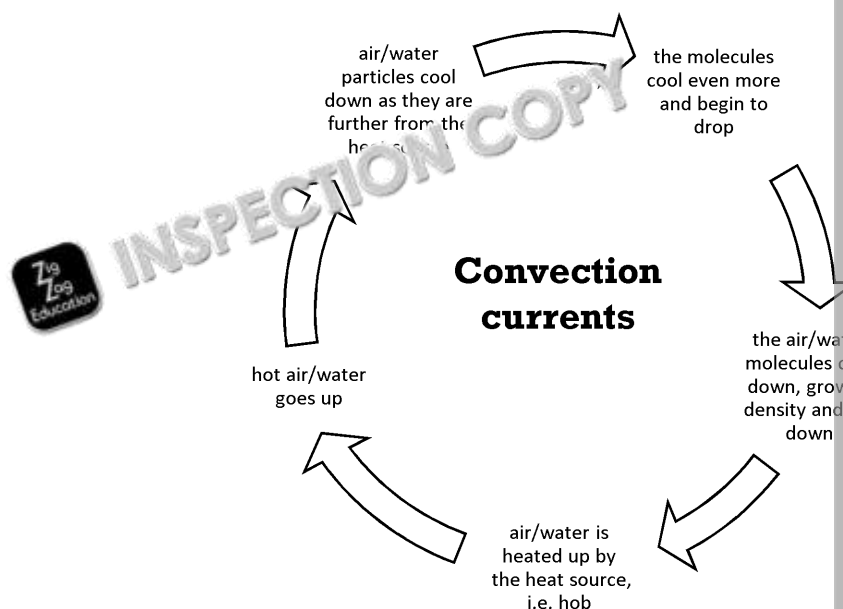
Convection is a way of transferring heat through migration of water or air particles. When heated, water or air particles move up, and when chilled, they move down. These convection currents, have found their use in ovens, during baking, boiling, poaching. In this way, heat is transferred indirectly through the use of water or air.



Steaming is an example of convective heat transfer, through the use of vapour.

### Apply

- 1) Prepare a chosen sauce.
- 2) Explain how convection is occurring during the process.
- 3) Explain why it is necessary to stir the mixture.



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## Radiation

Radiation is a technique that involves waves of heat being sent to the food – it means that the heater and the food do not need to touch each other.

Radiation involves two kinds of waves – infrared and microwaves.

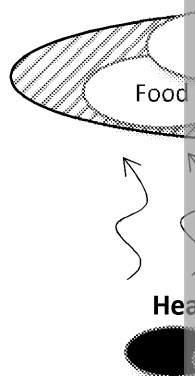
**Infrared** is a kind of electromagnetic radiation, which involves the use of light waves which are invisible to the eye. In cooking, infrared radiation is used in stoves, ovens and grills, where heat goes from the source to food.



Grilling/barbecuing is a classic way of using infrared for cooking as the black matt coal is effective in emitting infrared rays.



Infrared radiation is also used in toasters.

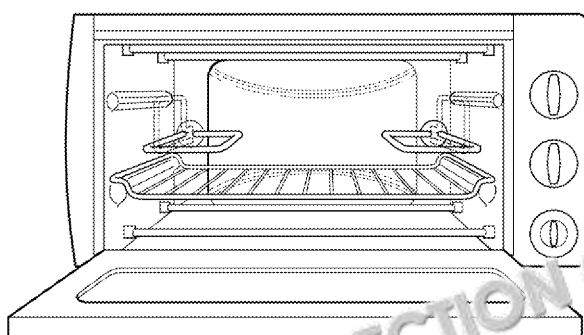


### Apply

List cooking methods that use direct infrared radiation.

**Microwaves** are also a kind of electromagnetic radiation, but they are longer than infrared waves. They are, most obviously, used in microwave ovens. The waves are sent to the food and heat up particles of water, which (as you already know) move faster and faster, transferring the heat to all other surrounding particles. That's why, that, the meal can be warmed up quite effectively, but the use of microwave ovens is limited to foods which contain a high proportion of water.

It is also important to remember that microwaves can bounce back from shiny surfaces, for example, aluminium foil or plates decorated with shiny golden-like materials inside a microwave oven.



### How a microwave oven works

1. Transformer changes low power electricity to high power electricity.
2. Magnetron creates microwaves.
3. Microwaves are sent to the food by an antenna.
4. Microwaves heat up the food.
5. Water molecules vibrate and heat the food.

### Apply

- 1) Prepare a vegetable stew using the recipe at <http://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/recipes/vegetable-stew>
- 2) Discuss what methods of heat transfer are used at each stage of preparation.

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**Heat transfer summary:**

Heat transfer method	Conditions	
Conduction	The objects have to touch each other	
Convection	The objects don't have to touch each other	
Radiation	The objects do not touch each other but waves of heat are being sent	

**Apply**

Identify the processes that take place when:

- 1) grilling tomato
- 2) boiling a pie
- 3) cooking a soup
- 4) roasting chicken
- 5) boiling potatoes
- 6) frying fish
- 7) preparing cottage pie
- 8) preparing a curry
- 9) cooking a béchamel sauce
- 10) poaching eggs

Got time? Give them a go at home or in your class.

**Apply**

Use a microwave and an oven to prepare frozen pizza. How long does it take?

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### 3.3.1.1 Check your understanding

1. Cooking food is the best way to... (1 mark)
- |                                    |                          |                                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a. increase the amount of vitamins | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. increase the amount of vitamins |
| c. kill harmful bacteria           | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. activate enzymes                |

2. Water is necessary when... (1 mark)
- |           |                          |             |
|-----------|--------------------------|-------------|
| a. baking | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. boiling  |
| c. frying | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. grilling |

3. The flavour of food may be changed by... (1 mark)
- |                   |                          |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| a. coagulation    | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. caramelisation |
| c. gelatinisation | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. both b and c   |

4. During cooking, rice will... (1 mark)
- |                                       |                          |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. increase its size and absorb water | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. decrease its size and absorb water |
| c. increase its size and lose water   | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. decrease its size and lose water   |

5. Sauces thicken during cooking because of... (1 mark)
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| a. water evaporation and caramelisation        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. water absorption and caramelisation         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. water evaporation and starch gelatinisation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. water absorption and starch gelatinisation  | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6. List three processes that take place during baking a lasagne. (3 marks)

.....

.....

.....

7. List three foods and three ways of preparing and cooking them to show variety. (3 marks)

.....

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### 3.3.1.2 Selecting Appropriate Cooking

How we treat our foods and what we do to them determines the final effect. A proper cooking methods helps obtain the desired effect, maintain nutritional value of food, make it tasty and appetising.

#### Preparation methods

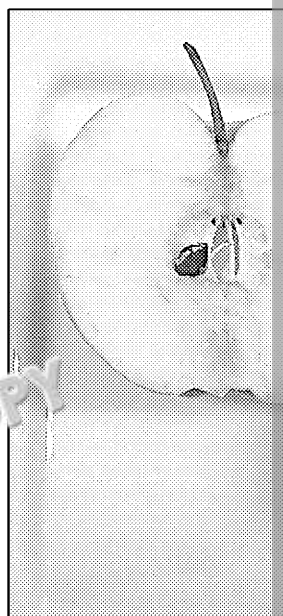
Before cooking, it is sometimes necessary to properly prepare food to either make it more palatable. Preparation methods involve:

- washing and cleaning – to remove dirt, dust and microorganisms
- sorting – choosing the good foods and throwing away the bad (mouldy or rotten)
- peeling and removing unnecessary/inedible parts (such as seeds from apples)
- blanching
- cutting – slicing, dicing, etc.
- mixing – combining ingredients
- marinating
- macerating
- shaping (e.g. bread rolls, pasties, cookies, etc.)

**Peeling and cutting** deprive fruits and vegetables of their protective layer of skin, which is exposed to such factors as oxygen, light and temperature, which damage vitamins in food. When fruits are cut, their cell walls are damaged, which leads to cell breaking and leakage of enzymes. These enzymes damage their surroundings, causing the fruit or vegetable to brown. This is called **enzymic browning**. (Chapter 3.3.2.4 Fruit and Vegetables.)



Freshly cut apple



The same apple

**Cutting, grating, shredding, blending** and other methods of diminution change the texture of food. This can be advantageous in some cases; for example, when making an apple purée. It is also useful for people who prefer softer, less crunchy foods – such as people with dental problems, or babies.

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**Blanching** is a process in which a product is put into hot water for a few minutes (the time varies with the food) and instantly chilled. This process is used to de-skin tomatoes. It also helps reduce vitamin loss (because of oxygen in the air) by inactivating the enzymes in fruit and vegetables' cells.

**Marinating** is a process of conserving foods by putting them into a marinade. Marinades contain acid (either from vinegar, balsamic vinegar, lemon juice, buttermilk or other), which denatures proteins in meats and therefore softens/tenderizes them. Marinating also shortens the time of cooking and changes the flavour of foods making it more desirable.

**Maceration** is a process in which dry foods (such as raisins and other dried fruits) absorb water. This is used to make them easier to bite or process further, e.g. blend anything from water, through lemon juice, to alcohol. Alcohol-macerated fruits are an example, Christmas pudding.

## Apply

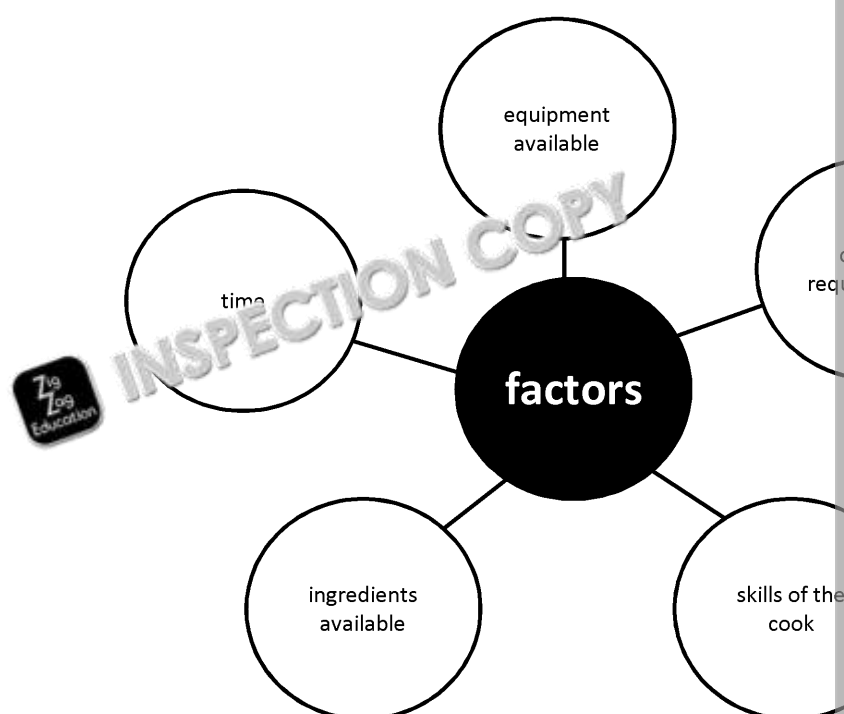


Prepare small pieces of chosen meat (beef, chicken or pork). Marinate one of them together. What do you observe? How has the marinade affected the *appearance* and *palatability* of the meat?

## Cooking methods

There is a wide selection of cooking methods, which involve water-based, fat-based or dry heat. The choice depends on various factors, such as skills of the cook or requirements of the person who doesn't own an oven will not be able to make a lasagne, and a person who doesn't have a frying pan will not be able to poach an egg. Likewise, it won't be possible to cook a three-course meal without an oven. It won't be possible to cook spaghetti without water (frying isn't a good example as it is not recommended to offer triple fried chips to someone suffering from cardiovascular disease).

Therefore, the choice of a cooking method depends on such factors as equipment available, the cook, time for cooking, available ingredients and requirements of a customer.

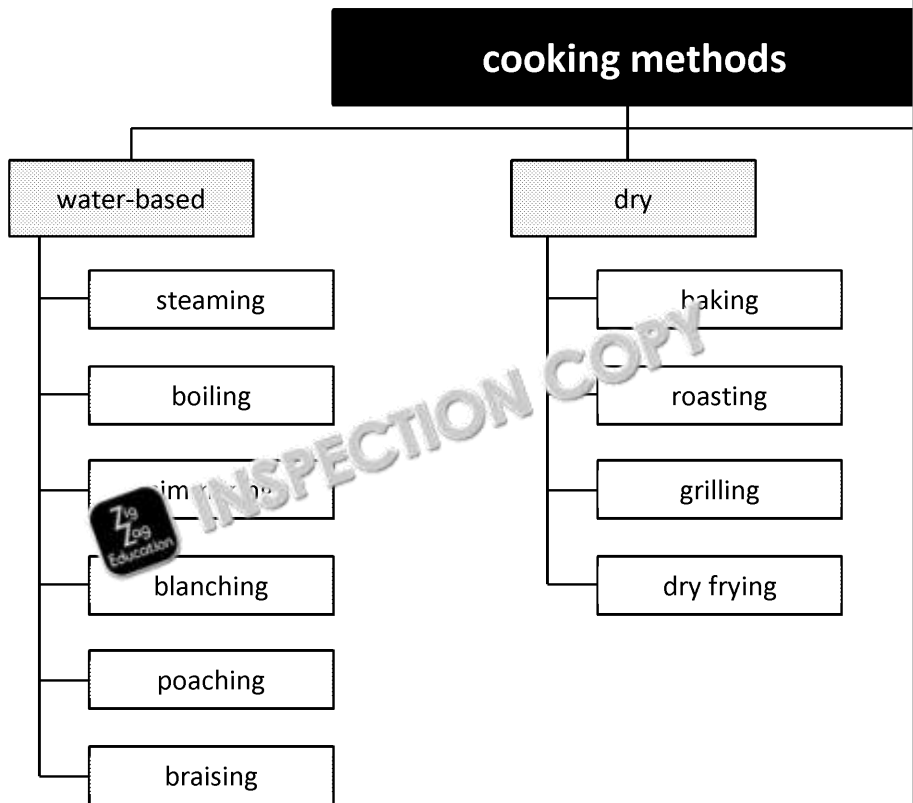


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Different cooking methods are often combined together to obtain the desired meal. These can be divided into water-based, fat-based and dry methods.



### Water-based cooking methods

Water-based cooking methods use water and other liquids to transfer heat – either directly (as in boiling) or indirectly (as in steaming). Their use is beneficial for a number of reasons:

- addition of fat is usually not required, making the dishes low in calories
- they help to soften proteins which makes them more digestible
- they are safe for fat-soluble vitamins as they will not dissolve in water or become oxidised
- they help to soften the starch and make it more digestible for people
- the time of cooking may be easily adjusted – it's enough to probe the cooked food to see if it is tender, or whether it's already done.

**Steaming** is a technique which requires the use of a steamer (or simply a strainer). In a steamer, a small amount of water is placed in the bottom pan, and food is placed in the top pan. As the water heats, it evaporates and cooks the food above. This method is advantageous for cooking vegetables (they do not dissolve in water because they simply have no contact with it). Food cooked this way is healthy, nutritious and low-fat.

**Boiling** is one of the most popular cooking methods, in which food is cooked in a large amount of water. An example of the use of that method is boiling potatoes, cabbage or eggs.

**Simmering** is a technique in which food is cooked with a significant amount of liquid, but on low heat and for a long time. An example of the use of that method is simmering a stew. The foods cooked this way will become soft and tender, but the long time of cooking will decrease the nutritional value of them.

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**Poaching** is a technique in which small amounts of water (or other liquid, such as milk) are applied to food to prevent it breaking apart. It is used to cook delicate products such as eggs. It is a good idea to save the liquid and use it to prepare a sauce to prevent vitamin loss.

**Braising** is a cooking method which, technically, combines frying and simmering. The food is browned on the surface, and then simmered for a long time. This way the food remains juicy and tender. The long time necessary and the high temperatures applied will unfortunately destroy some of the nutrients of a food.

### Apply

Boil, fry and roast potatoes. Measure the time they need to cook properly. Compare the benefits of different cooking methods versus the time people may have to prepare them.

### Dry methods

Dry methods include those cooking techniques which do not require the use of water. These include roasting, grilling and dry frying. Since these methods produce high temperatures, a special probe is used to check the readiness of the cooked food (because the surface is usually browned).

Baking and roasting are techniques that, basically, require the use of an oven.

**Baking** is applied to foods that do not have a stable structure, but will obtain it after processing. This includes such foods as muffins, sponge cake or fish pie. Before baking, it is advisable to cover the form with fat and/or breadcrumbs, to prevent the mass from sticking. Baking helps obtain soft foods with crispy surface – such as on top of bread. Sugar will caramelise in high temperatures and add flavour to the foods. Starch will break down and become more easily digestible, which may be important for people with digestive tract diseases.

**Roasting** is applied to foods that are already solid, such as turkey or parsnips. During roasting, it is advisable to sprinkle the surface of the roast with fat or juice that's leaking out of it to create a crispy, shiny skin.

**Grilling** is a technique which uses infrared waves to heat up the food. Grilling allows for the removal of fat, which makes it more appropriate for some people, e.g. those on a low-fat diet. However, grill foods, because harmful, carcinogenic substances may be produced as a result of the high temperatures.

**Dry frying** is frying in a dry pan – without the use of fat. It usually requires the use of a non-stick pan (Teflon, stainless steel or ceramic). During dry-frying fat will melt and leak out of the food. This is not acceptable for people who cannot consume a lot of fat. The longer the time of cooking is, the more vitamins will be lost due to the high temperatures applied.

All dry methods of cooking are not recommended for health reasons to people who want to reduce their intake of fats.

### Apply

Research (using books or the Internet) a recipe for a casserole or tagine and a recipe for a roast. Compare the benefits of different cooking methods and of how to prepare them. What cooking methods will you use?

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## Fat-based cooking methods

Fat-based cooking methods include shallow frying, deep frying and stir frying. Frying usually produces high temperatures (around 200 °C and more) and therefore damages vitamins in foods. Depending on the quality and quantity of the fat used, fried foods are more or less appropriate for different people. For example, frying in general is inappropriate for an obese person with hypertension, but shouldn't be harmful for a healthy one.

Fat-based cooking methods use different fats, such as vegetable oils, butter, lard or goose fat, and even margarines.

**Shallow frying** requires only a small amount of fat. The fat in shallow frying:

- seals the surface and closes juices inside the food (e.g. meats)
- creates a crispy skin/surface
- gives the food the desired taste
- prevents food sticking to the pan

Shallow frying will damage some of vitamin C and vitamin B2 due to heat, but will add more fat-soluble vitamins to the food.

**Deep frying** uses large amounts of fat – this is often used to fry chips or breaded treats such as Scotch eggs. During deep frying, the whole product is being sunk in fat, allowing it to cook evenly. Unfortunately, during deep frying a lot of fat is being absorbed by the food, making it fatty and not suitable for many people. Also the heat will lower the vitamin content in the food.



These deep

### Exam tip



Stir frying, steaming, grilling, dry frying and poaching are ways of conserving foods' nutritional value.

**Stir frying** is a variation of shallow frying, in which food is moved constantly in the pan. The technique is common in Chinese (especially Chinese). The dish in which food is stir-fried. Stir frying is a method which takes a short time to cook and preserve its nutritional value and colour.

## Things to think about

Discuss advantages and disadvantages of all of the cooking methods (with and without fat-based). Discuss how the use of each of the cooking methods could affect the nutritional value of the food. Discuss how this can influence the food choices that an individual would need to make.

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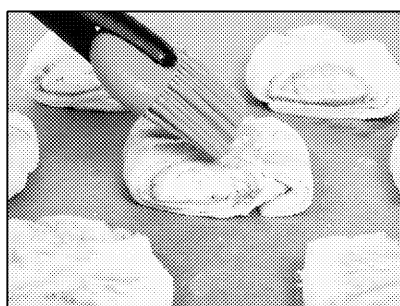
## Finishing methods

The food we eat not only needs to be healthy and tasty, it is also recommended that it should look appealing. This means that the food has to look pleasant and encourage people to eat it – in other words, it needs to be finished. Different methods of finishing the food include:

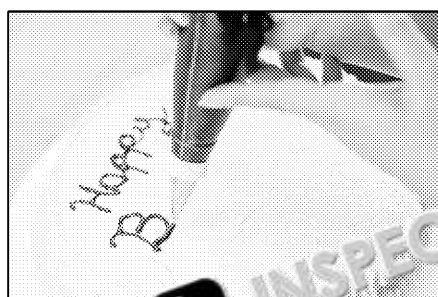
1. Glazing – applying a glossy coating to foods; glaze is applied to food by dipping or brushing. Substances used for glazing include icing sugar, jam and water solution, or edible oils.
2. Egg-wash glazing – smearing a raw dough or pastry before baking to make it golden. This technique usually uses beaten egg white or whole egg, or milk – this is because the sugars and proteins react together in a Maillard reaction, creating a brown colour.
3. Decorating – e.g. piping; applying precise patterns to a food's surface by pressing or extruding a substance.
4. Garnishing – adding a contrasting colour of vegetable, fruit or herb to make food look more appealing. Sometimes to contrast the main flavour, most popular garnishes include basil, coriander, spring onions, lemon and carrot, pumpkin and sesame seeds, and edible flowers.
5. Adding a crunchy top – usually a crunchy top on foods, or fried onion, e.g. on burgers.
6. Icing – a sweet mass made of icing sugar with various additives (such as flavourings and egg white), which adds a pleasing flavour, texture and appearance to sweet products.
7. Dusting – with icing sugar or cocoa powder
8. Filling – with fruit, cream or whipped cream, e.g. profiteroles



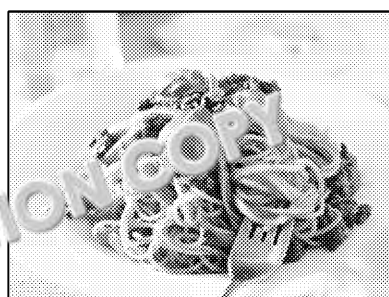
Icing makes the food more appetising and appealing to the consumer.



Egg-wash glazing allows pastries to obtain a golden shiny surface after baking.



Piping also allows for writing on cakes.



Basil leaves are often used for garnishing.

### Apply

Prepare two vegetable pasties. Glaze the surface of one of them and bake both. What do you observe?

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### 3.3.1.2 Check your understanding

1. Blanching is used to... (1 mark)
  - a. prevent fruit from browning ☐
  - b. prevent meat from browning ☐
  - c. increase the amount of vitamins ☐
  - d. decrease the amount of vitamins ☐
2. Roasting is used to cook... (1 mark)
  - a. eggs ☐
  - b. bread ☐
  - c. carrots ☐
  - d. muffins ☐
3. The change of colour of a potato, when cut, is caused by... (1 mark)
  - a. enzymatic browning ☐
  - b. enzymatic browning ☐
  - c. enzymatic greening ☐
  - d. reduction ☐
4. Stir frying is a way of... (1 mark)
  - a. conserving nutritional values in food ☐
  - b. conserving fat in food ☐
  - c. preventing enzymatic browning ☐
  - d. decorating food ☐
5. Water-based methods of cooking are better for your health than fat-based methods.
  - a. they decrease the amount of fat in food ☐
  - b. they increase the amount of vitamins in food ☐
  - c. they increase the amount of fat in food ☐
  - d. they decrease the amount of vitamins in food ☐

6. Explain why enzymatic browning takes place. (2 marks)

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7. List three processes that take place when cutting, boiling and finishing vegetables.

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### 3.3.1 Quiz-ine

Fill in the answers to the questions below to reveal a phrase relevant to food safety.

1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									

1. The amount of time for which a food can be safely stored (9)
2. Cooking method used to prepare vegetables and meats (8)
3. Electromagnetic waves used for radios and in cooking (10)
4. Method of direct heat transfer (10)
5. Smelling agents in food (13)
6. Bacteria found in eggs and poultry (10)
7. A type of radiation that involves the use of light waves that are visible to the
8. Method of cooking which requires the use of water or air (10)
9. Consistency of food (7)
10. Method of cooking with the use of a wok (7)

The shaded squares reveal this phrase:

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Chapter 2: Functional and Chemical Properties of Food

### Overview

This chapter is about the role of different ingredients in cooking. Here you will learn what proteins, carbohydrates and fats are used for, what their function is in cooking and how they react to heat. You will also discover the difference between enzymatic browning and oxidation of fruit and vegetables and learn which of them are the most susceptible to the processes. You will also discover how to choose and use various raising agents, depending on the ingredients you are working with.

### Learning Outcomes

After studying this chapter you should be able to do

- ☐ identify the main chemical processes that take place in cooking and preparing food
- ☐ understand the need for the use of certain techniques
- ☐ list different ways to use proteins, carbohydrates and fats
- ☐ understand the main processes that affect vegetables and fruit
- ☐ identify different raising agents
- ☐ explain how raising agents work
- ☐ choose the right cooking and preparation methods
- ☐ know most popular finishing methods

### Key Terms

<b>Protein denaturation</b>	The process of damaging proteins' chemical structure, which is irreversible
<b>Protein coagulation</b>	The process of changing proteins from liquid to gel
<b>Gluten formation</b>	The process of creating a strong, elastic, net-like structure with water
<b>Foam formation</b>	The process of trapping air bubbles between protein molecules, making it lighter and more susceptible to growth
<b>Gelatinisation</b>	The process of breaking down the chemical bonds in starch in the presence of water and heat
<b>Dextrinisation</b>	The process of breaking down long starch chains into smaller molecules
<b>Caramelisation</b>	The process of browning sugars in the presence of heat
<b>Shortening</b>	The process in which fat particles surround flour particles, making formation impossible
<b>Aeration</b>	The process of incorporating air between fat particles, making mass lighter
<b>Plasticity</b>	Elasticity; ability to easily change shape or physical state
<b>Emulsification</b>	The process of combining water and oil together to form a stable mixture
<b>Enzymatic browning</b>	The process of enzymatic denaturing due to plant compounds and the action of enzymes
<b>Oxidation</b>	The process of denaturing substances (such as vitamins) due to exposure to oxygen

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### 3.3.2.1 Proteins

The choice of ingredients and their amount in a dish is a matter of the 'to be or not to be' properties of foods, the way they react to heat, air and mechanical actions are the key to the meal. Knowing how ingredients are combined is then important in order to understand certain dishes and what their role is in them.

#### The chemical structure of proteins

Proteins are large biomolecules built of hundreds of amino acids. Amino acids bond together to form chains of peptides, and peptides bond together to form longer chains of polypeptides.

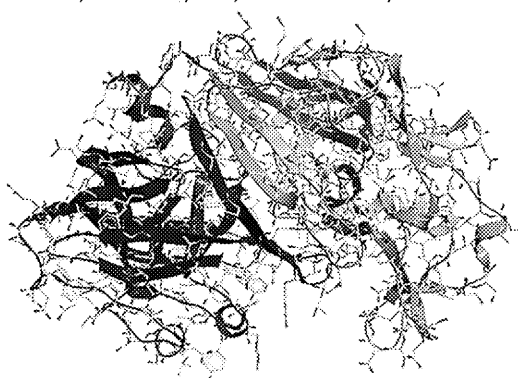


Proteins can have different spatial structures, usually to save room and fit more into a cell. Amino acids may react with each other, creating new chemical bonds.

1. **Primary structure** – when the protein has a form of a simple chain of amino acids bound together.
2. **Secondary structure** – when the chain starts to form a spiral (helix) or harmonica (sheet); here the amino acids come closer together, creating hydrogen bonds between them, which gives them one of the shapes (shown right).
3. **Tertiary structure** – when the spiral/harmonica clumps tighter to form a ball or other 3D shape (usually to save room). In the tertiary structure the protein is still built of one chain of amino acids, which now form three different types of chemical bonds (peptide bonds, hydrogen bonds and disulfide bridges).
4. **Quaternary structure** – when different chains of proteins form a 'lump' made of different tertiary-structured proteins, to form a fully functioning biological unit such as an enzyme or hormone.

Now you have a better understanding of how proteins are structured, we can begin to look at how different methods of preparation and cooking can change the structure and chemical properties of a protein.

*the quaternary structure, different chains of proteins join together to form a functioning unit, such as an enzyme.*



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## The use of proteins in cooking

### Protein denaturation

Denaturation is a process in which chemical bonds in the proteins are being broken, changing their structure. This happens in certain conditions:

1. When heat is applied to a protein, e.g. during baking a soufflé or boiling an egg.
2. When acid is applied to a protein, e.g. when lemon juice is added to meringue.
3. Due to mechanical actions, such as whisking egg white (see foam formation).

Different proteins denature at various temperatures. For most of the proteins in food, denaturation is around 65 °C and more. This is why eggs set, meats and fish become firm and spongy when cooked.

Acid is also capable of damaging bonds in proteins. This is used when adding lemon juice to foam (e.g. whipped egg white for meringue) to prevent it from collapsing or when marinating meat.

### Foam formation

Mechanical actions, such as whisking, also lead to the damage of protein structure. This can be partially reversed – you can notice how whipped egg white will turn into liquid again. During whisking, protein molecules stretch and tiny air bubbles are being forced in, creating a foam. Foams are used to lighten the texture of food, to make it more palatable and to prevent drying out during cooking. Foam formation is used to prepare sponge cakes, soufflés, ice cream and many other foods.

Notice that if beaten for too long, the proteins will shrink and push out water – the foam will collapse.

### Apply

- 1) Prepare an egg white. Beat it to obtain a white foam.
- 2) Divide the foam into three bowls.
- 3) Add a teaspoon of lemon juice to the second bowl. Continue beating the foam.
- 4) Write down your observations.

### Apply

- 1) Marinate a piece of pork and a piece of fish. Compare the structure of the raw and marinated pieces.
- 2) Roast all of the products. Compare the structure. What do you notice?
- 3) Learn at <http://www.bonappetit.com/test-kitchen/cooking-tips/article/stupid-easy-how-to-make-various-marinades>

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## Coagulation

Coagulation is a process in which large particles of proteins aggregate and form lumps. This is because they are being deprived of their electric charge. You can observe it by adding salt to an egg white. This process is usually reversible. Coagulation is used, for example, in salted fish – to undo it, you need to soak it in water in order to wash out the salt. Coagulation often takes place simultaneously with denaturation, so it might be difficult to differentiate them; for example, when frying eggs, the proteins both denature and coagulate, leading to the final change of texture. Coagulation may also be caused by enzymes, such as rennin used in cheese production, and heat, for example when boiling eggs.

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in re

## Apply

- 1) Prepare five eggs and boil them for different time: three, five, seven, 10 and 15 minutes. Use a pen to know when to remove which egg from the water.
- 2) Peel the eggs and cut them in half and note down the differences you observe.



Gluten gives the dough plasticity and traps air bubbles, allowing it to rise.

## Gluten formation

Gluten is the protein found in certain grains (such as wheat, rye, barley and oats). Gluten is formed from two kinds of proteins: glutenin and gliadin. When mixed with water, they join together and form a net-like structure. Gluten fibres are elastic and can be easily stretched, which gives the dough a sponge-like structure. This feature is called **plasticity**. This is why wheat bread is soft and elastic, and gluten-free bread is rather tender and brittle.

Oats are not a gluten-free grain. Unfortunately, the process used to make oat flour is the same as for wheat flour, so the process which removes the gluten from wheat is also used for oats very often. Oats are often packaged in the same way as wheat products, so they are not certified as gluten-free. Steps were taken to ensure that contaminated products do not cause harm to coeliacs, as they can cause harm to all resources.

During bread making, yeast produces carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). The gluten net is useful because it traps the carbon dioxide bubbles and allows the dough to rise.

## Apply

- 1) In groups, prepare three kinds of pasta dough with the use of different flours: plain flour and cornstarch. You can use the recipe at <http://www.food.com/recipes/fresh-pasta-dough.html>
- 2) Write down your observations.



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### 3.3.2.1 Check your understanding

1. Which process occurs during kneading a bread dough? (1 mark)
- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| a. foam formation | <input type="checkbox"/> b. denaturation     |
| c. coagulation    | <input type="checkbox"/> d. gluten formation |

2. Denaturation can NOT be caused by... (1 mark)
- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| a. adding lemon juice      | <input type="checkbox"/> b. adding kitchen salt   |
| c. adding balsamic vinegar | <input type="checkbox"/> d. adding spirit vinegar |

3. A marinade tenderises meat because... (1 mark)
- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| a. it contains salt | <input type="checkbox"/> b. it contains oil    |
| c. it contains acid | <input type="checkbox"/> d. it contains pepper |

4. Denaturation is a process which damages... (1 mark)
- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| a. the amino acids         | <input type="checkbox"/> b. the chemical bonds        |
| c. the structure of sugars | <input type="checkbox"/> d. the structure of proteins |

5. Coagulation takes place during... (1 mark)
- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| a. baking a shortbread pastry | <input type="checkbox"/> b. baking a quiche |
| c. toasting bread             | <input type="checkbox"/> d. cooking pasta   |

6. Explain how the use of high-gluten flour helps produce a dough. (2 marks)

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7. Explain how protein coagulation and denaturation allow one to produce a dough. (2 marks)

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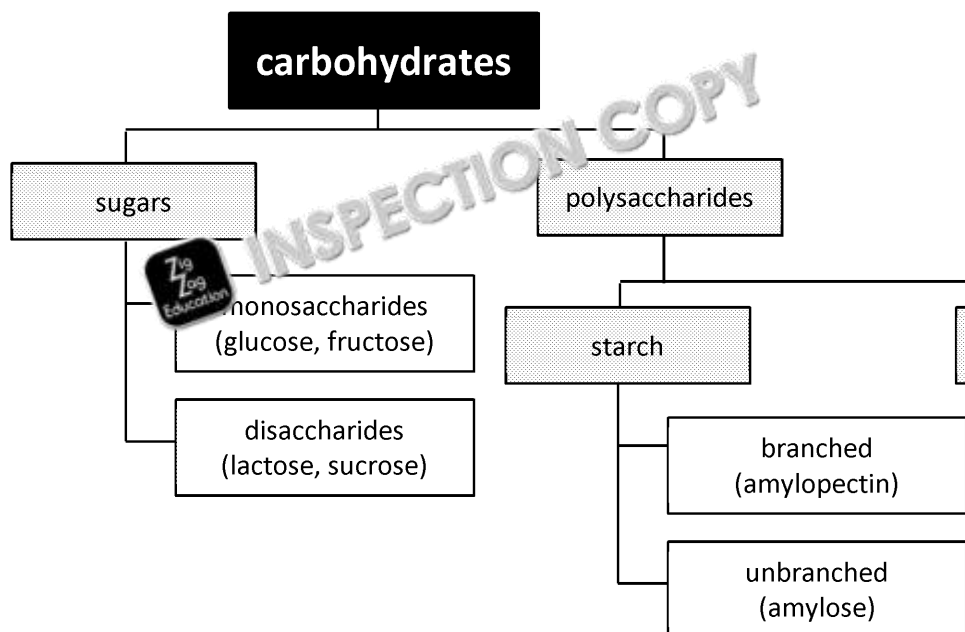


### 3.3.2.2 Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates include sugars, starches and dietary fibre. They are present in many vegetables and fruit to pure sugar. Carbohydrates are the main source of energy necessary to build DNA strands and conduct all live processes in every living cell.

#### The chemical structure of carbohydrates

Carbohydrates are all structured differently and can be split into the following groups:

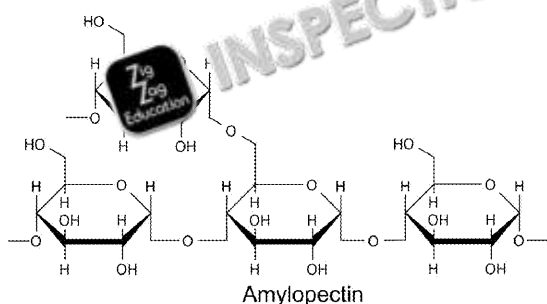
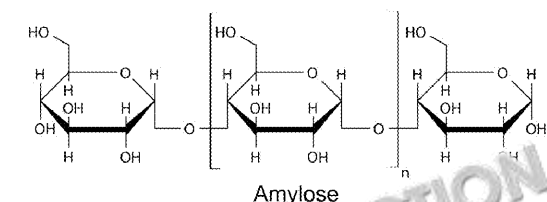


**Sugars** include monosaccharides (single molecules) and disaccharides (built of two molecules of single sugars). They are found in table sugar, honey, syrups, etc. They dissolve easily in water. When cooked, sugars **caramelize**.

**Starches and fibre** are long chains of monosaccharides bound together.

Starch is the main compound of flour. It is built from many monosaccharides bound together into long chains, which can be either branched or unbranched (this may be important when dissolving starch – the branched one should

dissolve more easily). Starch doesn't dissolve in cold water, but instead forms suspensions. The suspension is a mixture of starch particles floating in water, and eventually, forming a residue at the bottom. During cooking starch can either



*Amylose is an example of an unbranched starch, while amylopectin is branched. They are both built from thousands of glucose molecules.*

**Dietary fibre** is built of thousands of glucose molecules bound together into long chains, although it is available in purified form. It is indigestible for humans, but helpful for gut health. Soluble fibre absorbs water and forms a gel-like substance, which turns the hard plant foods to become soft.

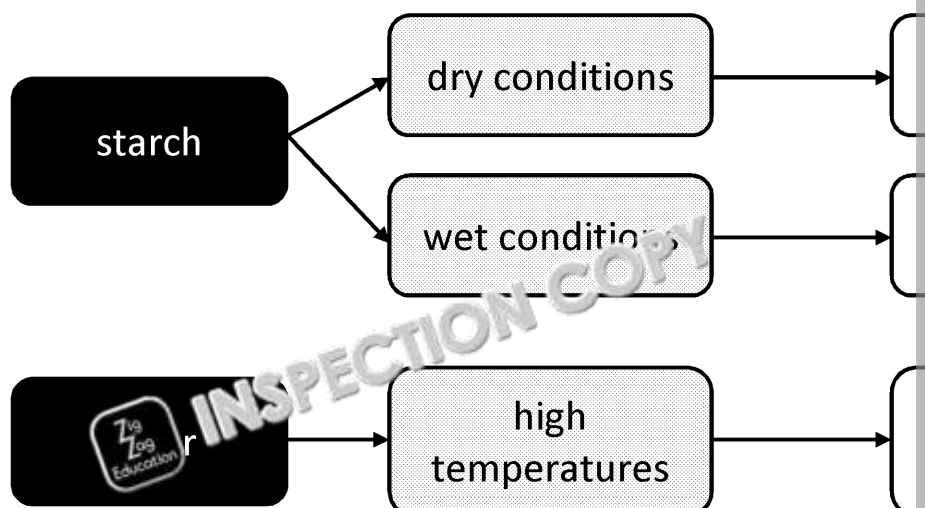
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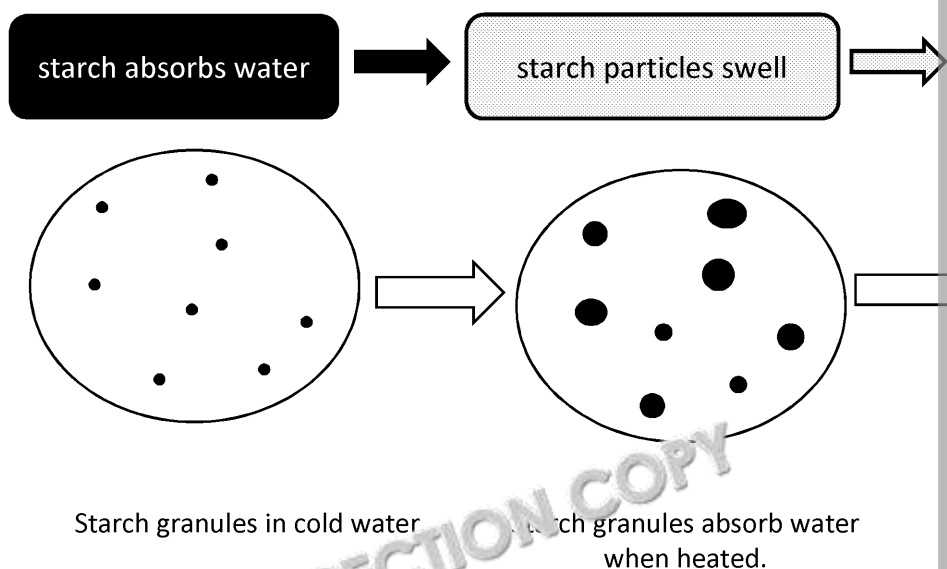
## Preparing and cooking with carbohydrates

Food preparation and cooking involves many and various techniques which differ from food and the chemicals it's made of. Various times of cooking, temperature and the lack of it will cause visibly different effects on carbohydrate-rich food products.



### Gelatinisation of starch

Starch particles do not dissolve in water. Instead, they absorb it and swell, turning into a gel. This process happens when the mixture of water and starch is heated and is called gelatinisation. It is used in cooking since it helps thicken sauces and other mixtures, such as puddings. The mixture must be stirred constantly to prevent lump formation. In cold water, starch granules will first form a suspension at the bottom of the vessel.



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### Apply

- 1) Prepare three samples of béchamel sauce: use plain flour for sample 1, and again plain flour for sample 3 but do not stir the mixture. What to
- 2) Explain how convection and conduction are applied during sauce-making



## Dextrinisation of starch

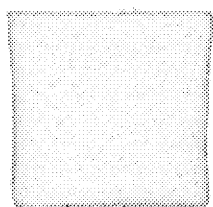
Shorter chains of polysaccharides are also called dextrin. When polysaccharides, under certain conditions, their long chains break down into shorter ones – this is called dextrinisation. This occurs while baking bread (and other starchy foods) and is responsible for the sweet-ish taste and the crispiness of the crust.



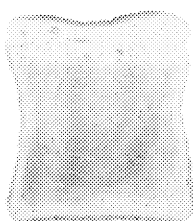
### Apply

Place a piece of bread in your mouth and chew for 60 seconds. Notice how the taste changes from savoury to sweet. This is because the long chains of polysaccharides are broken down by the enzymes in your mouth into sweet short chains of molecules of sugar. This process occurs when bread is being baked by the enzymes, but heat.

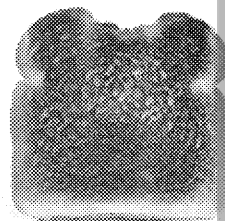
While making a roux for a sauce, flour dextrinises. Different stages of dextrinisation lead to a final variation of colour and taste.



Fresh bread has long chains of polysaccharides.



Lightly toasted bread will have some of the polysaccharides broken down into dextrins, so its colour and flavour will change.



Too long time and too high temperature of toasting will cause the bread to burn. The starch in it will be dextrinised, but the evaporation of water will cause it to taste bitter.

### Apply

Toast bread on different settings in a toaster (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) or for different times (e.g. two, five, 10, 15 and 20 minutes). Compare the colour of the bread slice and how it has changed both the appearance and the taste of the bread.

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## Caramelisation of sugars

Sugars include molecules of monosaccharides and disaccharides. At high temperature, sugar crystals break and melt into syrup and change colour from light yellow through golden to brown. This is because oxygen and hydrogen are being evaporated and only black molecules of carbon are being left. Depending on the temperature and time of cooking, all foods containing sugars will caramelise.

Caramelisation is used in cooking to either change the flavour or affect the colour of the food to make it more appealing. This process is used when making fudge or burning the surface of *crème brûlée* to create the golden crunchy top. Caramel is also used in manufacturing cola-like beverages and is responsible for their dark brown colour.

Caramel  
sweet to

## Apply

- 1)  up, prepare roasted carrots and onions.
  - Group A: roast for 30 minutes in 200 °C
  - Group B: roast for 30 minutes in 160 °C
  - Group C: roast for 60 minutes in 160 °C
  - Group D: roast for 60 minutes in 100 °C
- 2) Make notes on how cooking time and temperature affects the colour of the food.

## Did you know?

Maillard reaction takes place when proteins and carbohydrates are cooked by dry methods. Amino acids from proteins and sugar from carbohydrates react with each other, which results in creation of so-called *amadori compounds*. These agents change the smell, flavour and colour of the food (it becomes brown). The Maillard reaction is used to obtain the desired smell and flavour of bread and pastry, beer and coffee beans.



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### 3.3.2.2 Check your understanding

1. Dextrinisation takes place when... (1 mark)
  - a. simmering a tomato sauce
  - b. making a roux
  - c. cooling jelly
  - d. boiling pasta
2. Caramelisation is NOT used to prepare... (1 mark)
  - a. vanilla fudge
  - b. boiled vegetables
  - c. roasted vegetables
  - d. toffee sauce
3. The process of absorbing water and thickening mixtures with the use of starch is called... (1 mark)
  - a. dextrinisation
  - b. caramelisation
  - c. gelatinisation
  - d. gelation
4. During cooking, pasta... (1 mark)
  - a. will push out water and dextrinise
  - b. will swell and absorb water
  - c. will absorb water and dextrinise
  - d. will absorb water and gelatinise

5. Explain how starch affects viscosity (stickiness) of sauces and soups. (3 marks)

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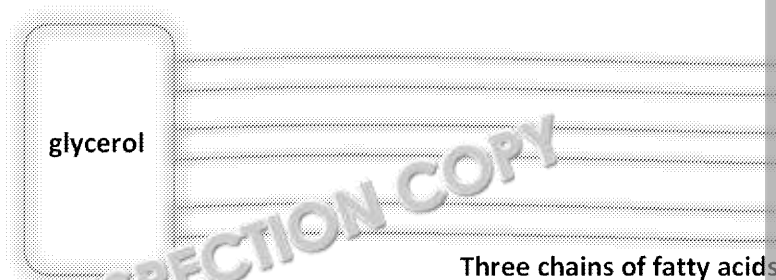
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### 3.3.2.3 Fats and Oils

Fats and oils are built of a glycerol 'head' to which three chains of fatty acids are attached. The fatty acids are bound together by either single or double bonds. This decides whether the fat is solid at room temperature – generally, saturated fats (which have only single bonds) are solid at room temperature, while unsaturated fats (in which double bonds are present) are liquid and are therefore called oils. The structure of fats is important because it determines its consistency, melting temperature and, therefore, its uses in cooking.



#### Working with the characteristics of fats and oils

The structure of fats has an important role when choosing cooking ingredients. So, when preparing shortcrust, while oils will be better for frying or preparing a dressing. Chefs can help to obtain the desired effect.

##### Plasticity

Plasticity of fats means their ability to be reshaped and to melt at different temperatures (they have different melting points). A good example is butter and lard. They are solid while in the fridge, become soft and greasy at room temperature and melt to an oil during cooking.

There are certain types of margarines which are spreadable in low temperatures – you can say that they have good plasticity.

##### Shortening

When mixed with starch (like flour), fats create a layer around starch particles, and therefore prevent gluten from forming long chains. This is called **shortening** and it helps to obtain crunchy, crumbly pastries, as in biscuits. It is noticeable that only solid fats shorten the mixture – oils will rather turn it into a lump. For this reason, it is better to use cold butter/lard and cold water, and then let the pastry rest in a fridge to obtain a melt-in-the-mouth pastry.

#### Apply

Prepare a shortbread pastry using butter or lard/lard and half oil. Bake the biscuits and observe the difference in texture and taste.

##### Aeration

Similar to foam formation, aeration is the trapping of air bubbles in the fat mixture. This leads to the creation of creams, which can be observed when whisking butter with sugar or when whipping cream. Aeration is also used to obtain the cloud-like texture of soups and creams.

#### Apply

- 1) Pour three different kinds of cream into a bowl: single cream, whipping cream and double cream.
- 2) In groups, whisk each cream to measure the time needed and observe the texture.
- 3) Compare how much fat each of the creams contains and how this affects the texture and the change in volume.

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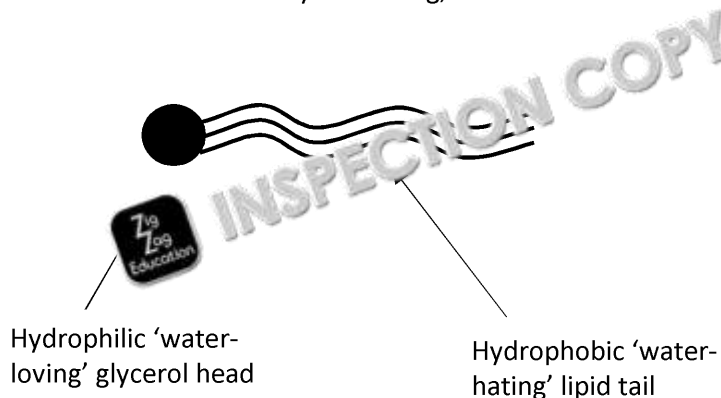
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## Emulsification

Emulsion is a mixture of oil and water. Depending on the amount of ingredients used, you can distinguish water-in-oil emulsions and oil-in-water emulsions. An example of oil-in-water emulsion is milk: usually fat molecules are spread evenly in the liquid, but when bottled, it will form a coat on top. An example of water-in-oil emulsion is butter (notice how it separates when taken out of the fridge).

Since fat is hydrophobic, the particles of fat and water will repel each other, leading to the dissection of the emulsion into layers. To prevent that and make the mixture more stable, emulsifiers are used. One of the most popular emulsifiers is lecithin, present in egg yolk. Emulsions are used not only in cooking, but also in the cosmetic industry.



When put in water, fat particles will turn their hydrophilic heads towards it, creating a monolayer.

Emulsifiers will attach to oil droplets keeping them dispersed and making the mixture stable.

### Did you know?

Mayonnaise is also an emulsion, made of vegetable oil, egg yolk, vinegar and flour.

- liquid phase – vinegar (sometimes milk is also used)
- oil phase – vegetable oil, such as sunflower oil; various types of mayonnaise use different kinds of oil, such as olive oil, to improve their nutritional value
- emulsifier – egg yolk. It is a natural source of lecithin which will suspend the oil in the mixture and prevent layering.

Large factories may also use homogenisers – special machines which pump the mixture and make oil droplets smaller, making it easier to mix and in the mixture.

### Research

Read the label of a mayonnaise jar/bottle and try to define whether it's an oil-in-water or water-in-oil emulsion. Justify your answer.

### Research

Check what substances are used as emulsifiers in foods on <http://www.eufic.org/en/emulsifiers-food/>

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### 3.3.2.3 Check your understanding

1. Shortening means that... (1 mark)
  - a. fatty acids become shorter
  - b. gluten fibres become shorter
  - c. sugar chains become shorter
  - d. carbohydrate chains become shorter
2. Aeration is used to produce... (1 mark)
  - a. bread dough
  - b. whisked egg whites
  - c. whisked egg yolks
  - d. whipped cream
3. Plasticity means that... (1 mark)
  - a. fat is solid at room temperature
  - b. fat is liquid at room temperature
  - c. fat is easily spreadable at room temperature
  - d. different fats melt at the same temperature
4. Which statement about fat molecules is FALSE? (1 mark)
  - a. fat molecules contain three chains of fatty acids
  - b. fat molecules are hydrophobic
  - c. fat molecules are hydrophilic
  - d. fatty acid chains can have both single and double bonds
5. Which statements about fats is TRUE? (1 mark)
  - a. fats dissolve vitamin B
  - b. fats with water create emulsions
  - c. fats with acid create emulsions
  - d. all fats have the same melting temperature

6. Explain the need to use emulsifiers. (2 marks)

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7. Explain how shortening helps obtain a crumbly pastry. (4 marks)

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### 3.3.2.4 Fruit and Vegetables

Various cooking and preparation methods affect the nutritional value of fruit and vegetables, which are an important source of fibre, vitamins and minerals. Special care should be taken of the damaging influence of external factors, such as oxygen or light. To prevent the loss of nutrients in fruit and vegetables and maintain their appearance, texture and taste as much as possible, the following should be considered when preparing and cooking, such as:

- not exposing them to air or light unnecessarily to prevent such processes as oxidation from happening
- consuming the liquid in which they were cooked
- microwaving, steaming, roasting or grilling vegetables rather than boiling them
- shortening the time of cooking whenever possible
- scrubbing instead of peeling

#### Enzymatic browning

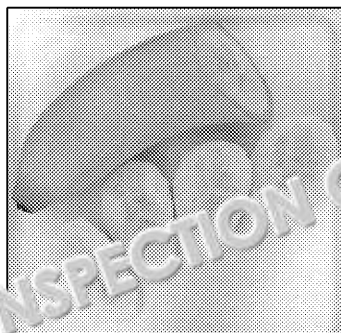
When you're peeling or cutting vegetables, you destroy the structure of plant cell walls, allowing the contents to spill out. The enzyme in the cells' juices, called *polyphenol oxidase*, reacts with oxygen and damages substances in plant tissues, causing them to brown. This is negative to the health of the food. On the other hand, it helps obtain the desired flavour of tea, coffee or chocolate. The following are some examples of vegetables and fruit, such as:

- avocados, bananas, peaches, pears, apples, mangos, apricots, plums, grapes
- aubergines, mushrooms, potatoes, lettuce

Enzymatic browning can be slowed down or stopped by either:

- lowering temperature, i.e. putting the cut vegetables into the fridge
- inactivating enzymes by blanching
- adding acid, such as lemon juice or vinegar to foods
- removing oxygen – this is applied in salad factories and manufacturers, where oxygen conditions.

Enzymatic browning will accelerate in the presence of iron or copper – for this reason, it is recommended to use plastic containers to store the food.



Freshly cut banana.

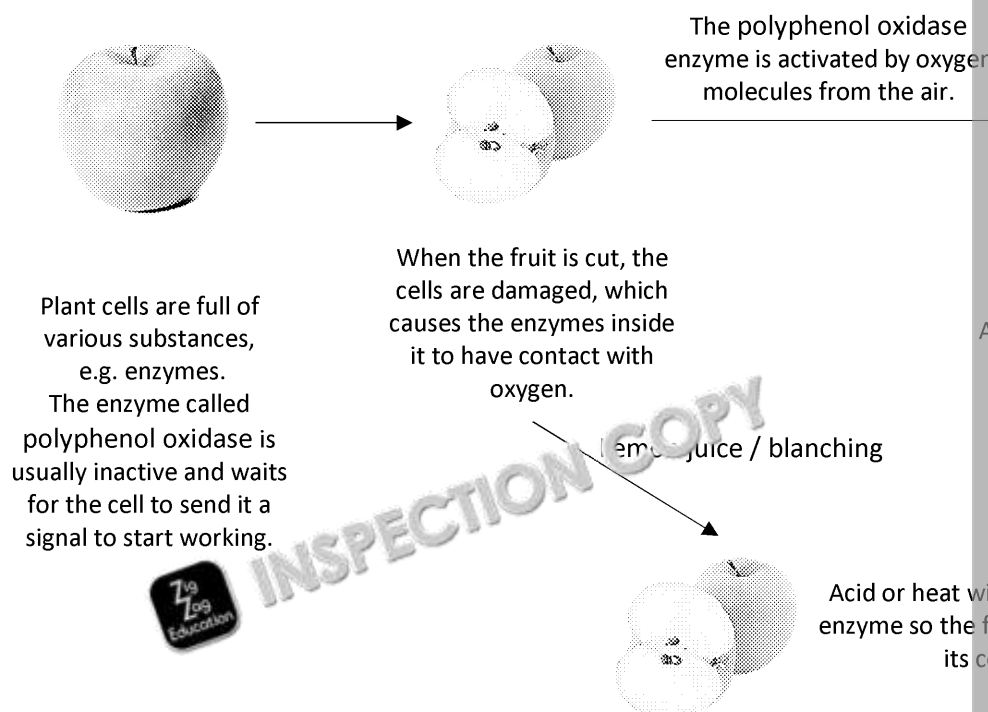


The same banana after  
some minutes.

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## Research

Explore in more detail why enzymatic browning takes place at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>

## Oxidation

Oxygen is necessary to live – it is produced by plants from carbon dioxide and used by animals for breathing. However, oxygen has a destructive effect on most foods, causing substances in them to oxidise. During oxidation, food particles lose electrons, which are being caught (or, more often, stolen) by oxygen molecules. This leads to food spoilage and loss of nutritional value, leading to development of an unpleasant flavour and smell.

Natural antioxidants are present in foods (such as vitamins A, C and E), but it is best not to expose the food to air if possible. Oxidation may be stopped or slowed down by:

- protecting food from oxygen, e.g. by covering it or packing in oxygen-free conditions
- use of antioxidants, either natural or artificial, such as lemon juice, lime juice,
- use of barrier substances such as salad dressing which covers the surface of food

## Apply

- Take three apples of different kinds (e.g. Golden Delicious, Gala and Jonagold).
- Cut or grate them and leave for 30 minutes.
- After that time you should observe different stages of oxidation – this is due to the different amounts of vitamins protecting them from the process.
- Repeat the experiment, but add lemon juice to each sample. What do you observe?

## Research

Explore the variety of English apples and pears on <http://www.englishapplesandpears.co.uk/> and assess which apple varieties are less prone to oxidation.

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### 3.3.2.4 Check your understanding

1. Oxidation is undesirable because... (1 mark)
  - a. it increases the amount of vitamins to dangerous levels
  - b. it leads to vitamin loss
  - c. it prevents food spoilage
2. Antioxidants include... (1 mark)
  - a. vitamin A, C and K
  - b. vitamin A, C and E
  - c. vitamin C, E and K
  - d. vitamin A, E and K
3. Enzymatic browning occurs mostly... (1 mark)
  - a. dairy
  - b. nuts
  - c. fruit
  - d. fruit and vegetables
4. Oxidation leads to... (1 mark)
  - a. bad smell and flavour development
  - b. loss of nutritional value
  - c. unappetising appearance of the food
  - d. all of the above
5. Enzymatic browning will happen more quickly in... (1 mark)
  - a. fruit which are high in vitamin C
  - b. grated potatoes kept in a metal bowl at room temperature
  - c. vegetables which are cooked whole
  - d. fruit kept in a covered bowl in a fridge

6. Explain the difference between enzymatic browning and oxidation in fruit.

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7. List three ways of preventing enzymatic browning. (3 marks)

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### 3.3.2.5 Raising Agents

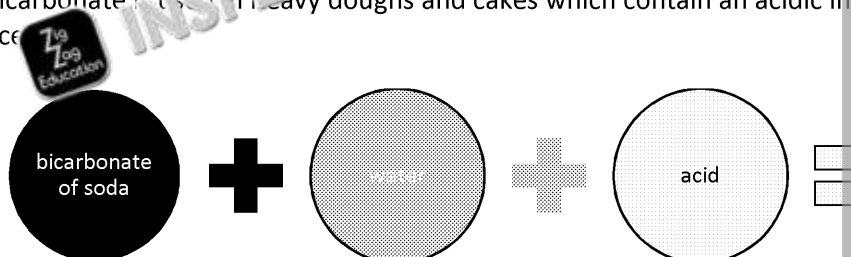
Raising agents are used in cooking to lighten the texture of certain foods and make them more appealing to consumers. They introduce gas to a mixture, which is then trapped in it, helping it to rise.

#### Chemical raising agents

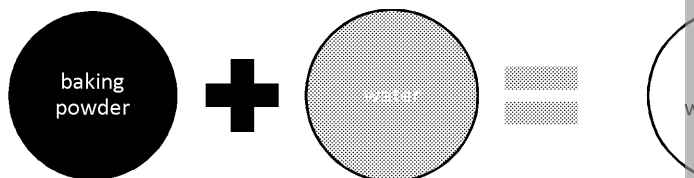
Chemical raising agents include bicarbonate of soda and baking powder.

**Bicarbonate of soda ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ )** is a white powder added to baked goods for leavening. It must be used properly and avoid a soapy aftertaste.

In the presence of water, acid and heat, it turns into carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) – a gas, which is trapped in the mixture. The reaction also produces small amounts of water (vapour) and salt, which are also trapped in the mixture. During baking, the carbon dioxide turns into air bubbles. As these expand and rise, the mixture becomes light and fluffy. Sodium bicarbonate is used in heavy doughs and cakes which contain an acidic ingredient like lemon juice.



**Baking powder** is a white powder which contains bicarbonate of soda and a weak acid like cream of tartar or sodium phosphate. In contact with water, it will go through many chemical reactions and eventually produce carbon dioxide. During baking the gas will expand and cause the mixture to rise. Baking powder is used in many recipes, such as sponge cake or pancakes.



**Self-raising flours** already contain raising agents (usually baking powder) in correct proportions. They are a good choice if you don't know how much to use.

Too much of chemical raising agents can cause a soap-like, bitter flavour, and for this reason, it is important to use only as much as indicated in a recipe.

**Self-Raising Flour**

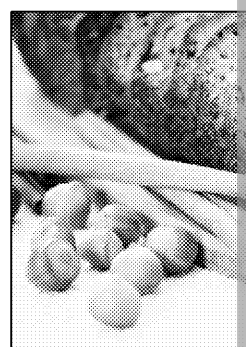
**Ingredients:** Fortified Wheat Flour (Wheat Flour, Ascorbic Acid, Iron, Niacin, Thiamin), Raisins, Baking Powder, Calcium Carbonate, Calcium Hydroxide.

**Allergy Advice:** Contains Gluten. For more information on Cereals containing Gluten, see the list on page 10 of the Food Guide. May also contain Soya.

**Nutrition Information**

Typical values	per 100g
Energy	1528kJ/360kcal
Fat	1.2g
of which saturates	0.2g
Carbohydrate	76g
of which sugars	1.0g
Fibre	3.1g
Protein	9.0g
Salt	1.1g

Self-raising flour already contains raising agents. Note that it's also fortified with calcium, iron, niacin and thiamine.



Sodium bicarbonate is used in recipes like carrot cake or soda bread to lighten the texture.

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## Mechanical ways of raising

Mechanical ways of raising include mechanical actions that help incorporate air in. There are many mechanical methods to be aware of:

Method	How does it work and why?
<b>Whisking</b>	Whisking helps introduce a lot of air into the mixture of liquid and creating a foam. A metal or plastic whisk is used to beat egg whites into a foam to produce, for example, meringue.
<b>Beating</b>	Beating with a wooden spoon helps produce batters, which are heavy for a whisk. Batters are used to prepare pancake or tempura for prawns.
<b>Sieving</b>	Sieving flour traps air between flour granules, which helps produce a light sponge cake.
<b>Creaming</b>	Creaming traps air bubbles in a mixture of fat and sugar. The lighter the mixture, the lighter colour it will have. Helpful when whipping cream.
<b>Folding</b>	Folding traps air between layers of food, e.g. in French toast.
<b>Rubbing in and kneading</b>	Kneading introduces air into the dough. Used in most bread dough, doughnuts, scones, etc.

## Steam as a leavening agent

Steam can be used as a leavening agent when a mixture has a high proportion of liquid and is cooked at high temperature. When the food is exposed to heat, the water reaches its boiling point and turns into steam. During cooking the steam rises and expands, pushing the food mixture upwards. Steam is used to produce puff pastry, choux and Yorkshire pudding – that's why their texture is layered.

### Apply

- 1) Prepare a basic soufflé. You can use a recipe from [http://allrecipes.co.uk/recipe/23840/cheese-souffles.aspx?o\\_is=Hub\\_TopRecipe\\_1](http://allrecipes.co.uk/recipe/23840/cheese-souffles.aspx?o_is=Hub_TopRecipe_1)
- 2) What raising methods will you use and why?



SI, SII

## Biological raising agents (yeast)

In the presence of food, warmth and moisture, **yeast** breaks down sugars and produces carbon dioxide and alcohol, which leads to a rapid growth of the mixture. This is why yeast is so important in the food industry.

Yeast is a fungus.

### Apply

- 1) Prepare a batter for a savoury roulade using eggs, flour, milk, butter and yeast.
- 2) What raising method will you use? Why?

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Yeasts are used in the production of wine, beer, kefir (fermented milk beverage) and

During the fermentation of yeast, sugar is transformed into carbon dioxide and alcohol, which dictates the final flavour of a given product. During baking, the carbon dioxide produced turns into air bubbles. As these expand, the mixture rises.

Yeasts are available in many forms:

- **Fresh** – a beige, soft block, with a gentle smell of mushrooms; it is necessary to grow it first in a bowl with warm water and sugar before adding to a batch
- **Dried** – small granules that have to be restored 'before use' (dissolved in water or other warm liquid);
- **Easy-blend** – powder added directly to the batch

Yeast is usually used in the production of heavy, sugar-rich and low-fat products such as bread, bread rolls, pizza or doughnuts.



*Fresh yeast.*

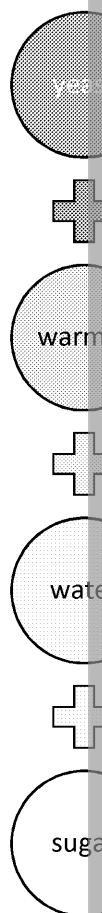
### Apply

- 1) Prepare a bread dough with the use of bicarbonate of soda, and one using yeast. Compare the time needed to prepare and bake the doughs.
- 2) Compare the taste of both breads.
- 3) Assess the nutritional value of both breads.

**S1, S4, S10, S11**



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### 3.3.2.5 Check your understanding

1. Which of the following statements is TRUE about mechanical raising agents? (1 mark)
  - a. they incorporate air into the food
  - b. they incorporate carbon dioxide into the food
  - c. they produce alcohol
  - d. they produce carbon dioxide
2. Sieving is a mechanical raising agent because... (1 mark)
  - a. it traps air between fat particles
  - b. it traps carbon dioxide between fat particles
  - c. it traps air between starch particles
  - d. it traps carbon dioxide between starch particles
3. Yeast is NOT used to produce... (1 mark)
 

a. beer	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. wine
c. kefir	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. buttermilk
4. What gas is produced by the use of baking powder? (1 mark)
 

a. carbon oxide	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. oxide
c. hydrogen	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. carbon dioxide
5. During fermentation of yeast, what substances are produced? (1 mark)
 

a. carbon dioxide and alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. water and alcohol
c. carbon dioxide and water	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. carbon oxide and water

6. Give three examples of mechanical raising agents and explain how they work. (3 marks)

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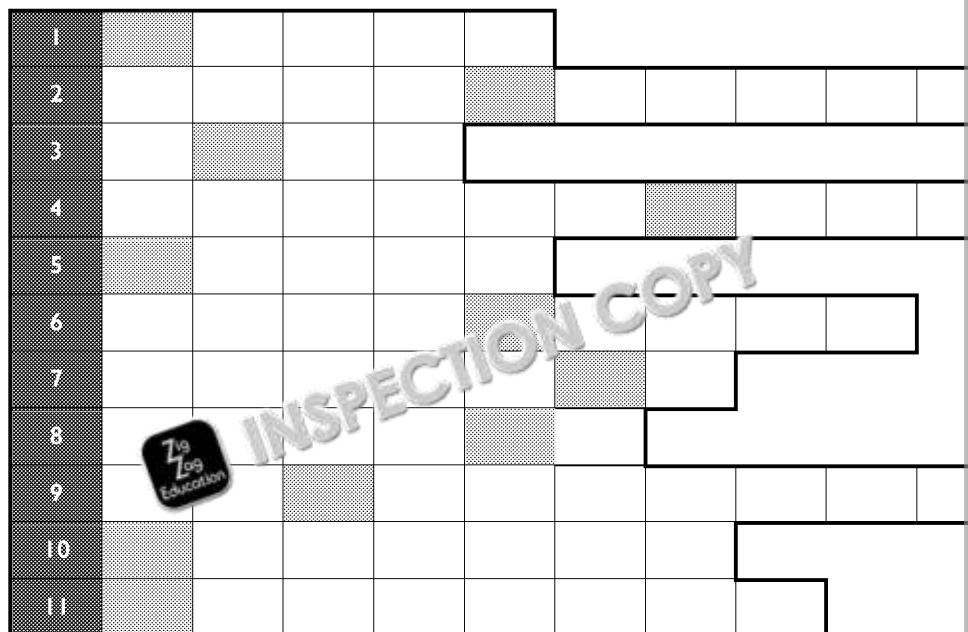
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### 3.3.2 Quiz-ine

Fill in the answers to the questions below to reveal a phrase relevant to food safety.



- 1) The unbreakable polysaccharide (5)
- 2) They prevent oxidation (12)
- 3) What you obtain when whisking egg white (4)
- 4) The gas produced by yeasts (13)
- 5) Produced when water boils (5)
- 6) Process in which food is briefly put into hot water (9)
- 7) Short chain of carbohydrates (7)
- 8) The protein in flour (6)
- 9) Process in which the structure of protein is damaged (12)
- 10) Substance created when sugar is heated (7)
- 11) A mixture of water and oil (8)

The shaded squares reveal this phrase:



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# Answers

## Chapter 1

### 3.3.1.1

#### Things to think about (p. 4):

Examples could include deep-fried foods, such as chips, which are high in fats. To digest them, bile is produced in the gall bladder, and that puts extra strain on the liver. Modifications could be made so that the surface of the food is sealed and the food doesn't soak up as much fat.

Also, raw vegetables might be difficult to digest for some people due to high insoluble fibre. They could be steamed or boiled to break down some fibre and improve digestion.

#### Things to think about (p. 5):

- Students should notice that foods which are frozen usually have longer date marks than raw fish and fish salad. Students should also notice that highly processed, sterilised products have a 'best before' date mark rather than a 'use by' mark.
- Students should be able to conclude that a 'use by' date mark is used on fresh, easily spoiled products, while a 'best before' date mark is used on foods which are processed in a way that protects them from the external factors and significantly extends their shelf life.

#### Check your understanding

**Q1:** C, **Q2:** B, **Q3:** D, **Q4:** A, **Q5:** C

**Q6:** Any three from:

- convection
- conduction
- radiation
- starch gelatinisation
- water absorption
- caramelisation

**Q7:** Various answers are possible – student is to indicate three products and at least one way to cook them.

For example, any three from:

- pork – chops / stew / baked / fried / boiled / in a soup / sausage / paté / corned beef
- carrots – boiled / steamed / baked / fried / in a stew / in a soup / pureed (in soup)
- potatoes – boiled / steamed / baked / fried / stuffed / chips / crisps / salad / mash
- eggs – hard boiled / soft boiled / fried / stuffed / salad / paste / poached / scrambled

### 3.3.1.2

#### Things to think about (p. 17):

Examples could include:

	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>Boiling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low-calorie</li> <li>No added fat</li> <li>Quick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vitamins dissolve when draining</li> <li>Loss of vitamins</li> <li>Loss of colour</li> </ul>
<b>Steaming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserves the nutritional value of food</li> <li>Food becomes tender</li> <li>Hard to overcook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can't be used for pork, as it would be too long</li> </ul>
<b>Simmering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops the flavours</li> <li>Helps to obtain a desirable texture</li> <li>Helps to cook the food evenly throughout</li> <li>Helps to obtain the desired texture, e.g. by evaporating water the food becomes thicker</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Can cause vitamins to be lost</li> </ul>
<b>Blanching</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps to preserve the nutritional value and colour of the food</li> <li>Quick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The food does not become as tender as other methods</li> </ul>

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	Advantages	
<b>Poaching</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good for preparing delicate ingredients</li> <li>Helps to preserve the texture of the food</li> <li>Food remains juicy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can't be used for foods that they would taste better if cooked in their own juices</li> <li>Vitamins can be lost when drained</li> </ul>
<b>Braising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seals the surface so the food remains juicy</li> <li>Improves the texture of the food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Causes vitamin loss and long cooking times</li> </ul>
<b>Baking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates an attractive crust</li> <li>Develops flavours through dextrinisation and caramelisation</li> <li>Improves palatability of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Food may easily become dry if the temperature is too high or the time too long</li> <li>The long cooking times at low temperatures</li> </ul>
<b>Roasting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates an appetising crust/surface</li> <li>Helps to lower the calorific value of food as fat is rendered and leaks out of it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Causes vitamin loss and long cooking times</li> <li>Time-consuming</li> <li>Can increase the calorific value if fat is added to the food</li> </ul>
<b>Grilling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually quick</li> <li>Usually low-fat</li> <li>Helps to preserve the nutritional value of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May create harmful compounds at the very high temperatures</li> </ul>
<b>Dry frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very quick</li> <li>Helps to prevent the nutritional value of food from being lost</li> <li>Helps to lower the calorific value of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very high temperatures can burn very quickly</li> </ul>
<b>Shallow frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates a crunchy crust</li> <li>Helps to obtain an appetising colour</li> <li>Seals the surface so the food remains juicy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases calorific value</li> <li>High temperatures</li> </ul>
<b>Stir frying</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very quick</li> <li>Helps to prevent the nutritional value of food from being lost</li> <li>Low-fat</li> <li>The food remains crunchy</li> <li>The colour of food (e.g. broccoli) is usually preserved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can't be used for foods that they would taste better if cooked in their own juices</li> </ul>

## Check your understanding

Q1: a, Q2: c, Q3: b, Q4: a, Q5: a

Q6: Two marks for:

- cutting damages cell walls
- cell juices spill out and cause enzymes to work on the surrounding cells

Q7: Any three from:

- enzymatic browning
- loss of vitamins
- changing texture
- altering texture
- garnishing
- glazing
- altering nutritional value

## Quiz-ine:

- Shelf life
- Roasting
- Microwaves
- Conduction
- Essential oils
- Salmonella
- Infrared
- Convection
- Texture
- Stir fry

Hidden phrase: food safety

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## Chapter 2

### 3.3.2.1

#### Check your understanding

Q1: d, Q2: b, Q3: c, Q4: d, Q5: b

Q6: Any two from:

- Yeast ferments and produces carbon dioxide.
- Gluten forms a net, which traps air bubbles / carbon dioxide.
- Gluten fibres are elastic and can be stretched.
- This allows dough to rise.

Q7: Any four from:

- Proteins denature when heated.
- Proteins coagulate in the presence of salt or mild acids.
- In quiche Lorraine eggs are beaten and poured on top.
- During baking, the proteins in the egg mixture denature and coagulate than thick/stable.

### 3.3.2.2

#### Check your understanding

Q1: b, Q2: b, Q3: c, Q4: d

Q5: Three points for:

- Starch undergoes gelatinisation in the presence of water and heat.
- Starch molecules absorb water and swell.
- Absorption of water leads to thickening of a given mixture, e.g. a soup or sauce.

### 3.3.2.3

#### Check your understanding

Q1: b, Q2: d, Q3: c, Q4: c, Q5: b

Q6: Two points for:

- Fats are hydrophobic and repel water molecules, leading to layering.
- Emulsifiers prevent the mixture from layering.

Q7: Four points for:

- In shortening, fat molecules create a hydrophobic layer around starch molecules.
- This prevents gluten in starch from accessing the water.
- Gluten cannot form long fibres without water.
- Therefore the pastry is crumbly/crunchy/brittle, rather than spongy and elastic.

### 3.3.2.4

#### Check your understanding

Q1: b, Q2: b, Q3: d, Q4: d, Q5: d

Q6: Two marks for:

- Enzymatic browning is primarily caused by an enzyme (oxygen accelerates).
- while oxidation is primarily caused by oxygen.

Q7: Any three from:

- protection from oxygen by covering food, e.g. with cling film
- protection from oxygen by packing food in oxygen-free conditions
- using proper tools which do not contain copper or iron
- use of acid such as lemon juice or vinegar
- lowering temperature by putting food into the fridge
- blanching the food to deactivate enzymes

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### 3.3.2.5

#### Check your understanding

Q1: a, Q2: c, Q3: d, Q4: d, Q5: a

Q6: Six points – any three for a mechanical raising agent and any three for the mechanical

<b>Whisking</b>	Eggs are whisked with sugar to make meringue or sponge cake; which air bubbles are trapped.
<b>Beating</b>	Liquids are beaten to make a batter; air bubbles are trapped in it.
<b>Folding</b>	Air is being trapped between layers, e.g. in flaky pastry.
<b>Sieving</b>	Air is being trapped between starch particles (but also icing sugar).
<b>Creaming</b>	Air is trapped between fat and sugar particles in the mixture.
<b>Rubbing in</b>	Rubbing the fat into flour traps the air in the mixture.

#### Quiz-time:

1. fibre
2. antioxidants
3. foam
4. carbon dioxide
5. steam
6. blanching
7. dextrin
8. gluten
9. emulsification
10. caramel
11. emulsion

Hidden phrase: Food science

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