



Food and Nutrition

GCSE (9–1) | AQA | 8585



Active Revision Worksheets

for AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition: Food Safety

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Teacher's Introduction

This resource contains activity worksheets covering the whole of the content for **3.4 Food Safety** of the AQA (9–1) GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition (8585) specification.

These worksheets provide a systematic structure for revision and ensure that students have covered everything after working through them.

The resource can be used as:

- a comprehensive revision workbook in the run-up to the exam
- homework sheets to consolidate learning
- class exercises or independent practice

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

Each topic follows this structure:

| | |
|--|---|
| Section A (write-on) | This section is designed to facilitate students to <i>demonstrate knowledge and understanding</i> , and contains factual questions and activities based on what they have learned in class, aligned to AO1. |
| Section B (write-on) | This section supports students to <i>apply their knowledge and understanding</i> of nutrition, food, cooking and preparation, aligned to AO2. |
| Section C (non-write-on) | This section challenges students to <i>analyse and evaluate</i> different aspects of nutrition, food, cooking and preparation, aligned to AO4. |
| Exam-style questions (non-write-on) | This section contains exam-style questions for students to practise for their exams. |

Note: AO3 (*Plan, prepare, cook and present dishes combining appropriate techniques*) is not covered in the exam, and is explicitly for the NEA, so has not been included in this revision resource. However, some **extension tasks** have been included throughout to get students to think about planning, preparing, cooking and presenting dishes linked to different questions and/or activities, combining appropriate techniques.

Each topic has a checklist, based on the specification, of everything students need to know for their exams. Students should use this table to track their progress and confidence against each of the given objectives for the topic. The levels are as follows:

- **Bronze** – 'I am not completely confident. I have revised the content, but I don't fully understand it and need to revise this more.'
- **Silver** – 'I am semi-confident. I understand the content, but I need to improve my application and evaluation of knowledge.'
- **Gold** – 'I am confident in my knowledge and application of the content and I feel I can effectively evaluate and analyse the content if required.'

Not every student will need to work through every section – where students are happy that they understand the theory content, they may wish to progress directly to sections B and C for practice. However, should students fail to score full marks in these sections, it is recommended that they go back and do the knowledge revision activities in Section A.

March 2023

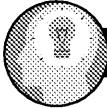
Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

3.4.1.1 MICROORGANISMS AND ENZYMES



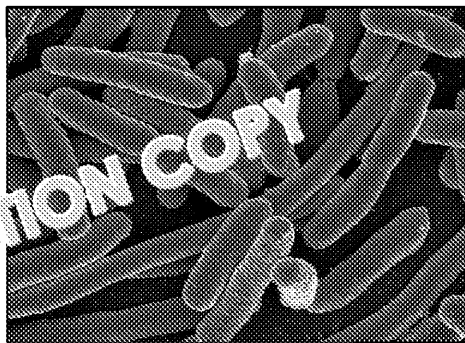
Knowledge checklist

| |
|--|
| Differences between yeast, bacteria, mould and enzymes |
| The role of temperature, moisture and pH in the growth of microorganisms |
| Methods of controlling the growth of microorganisms and enzymic action |
| Identifying high-risk foods |



SECTION A: DEMONSTRATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- Below is a picture of *E. coli* bacteria. Label the image to identify three conditions that can influence microorganism growth.



Microscope image of *E. coli* bacteria

- Define the following:

a) Bacteria

.....
.....

b) Yeast

.....
.....

c) Moulds

.....
.....

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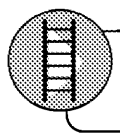
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3. Fill in the gaps in the sentences below to complete the paragraph. Use the

browning, reactions, protein, acid, denatured, catalysts, lemon

Enzymes are _____, which means they speed up chemical _____ . They are usually made of _____ . This means they must be _____ to control their effects. The application of heat _____ – for example, by _____ vegetables or by putting _____ on fruit to prevent _____ .



EXTENSION: Other than those mentioned in question 3, make a list of _____ activity in food.

4. Describe **two** ways that enzymes, yeast and moulds can each lead to the spoilage of food. Give examples in your answer.

Enzymes

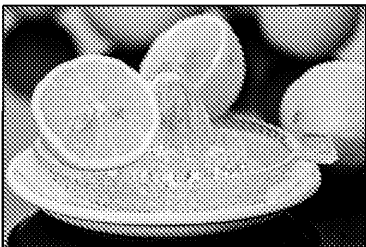
- 1. _____
- 2. _____

Yeast

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

Moulds

- 1. _____
- 2. _____



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SECTION 8: APPLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- Using an example of a ready-to-eat food, explain why ready-to-eat foods are at risk of microbial growth when served as part of a buffet.

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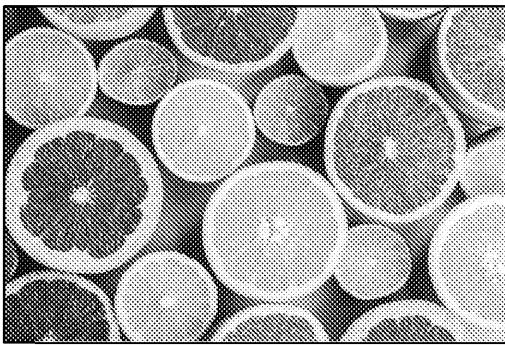
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- Use the pictures below to help identify three methods of controlling microorganisms. Then explain how each method helps to control the growth of microorganisms.



Method:

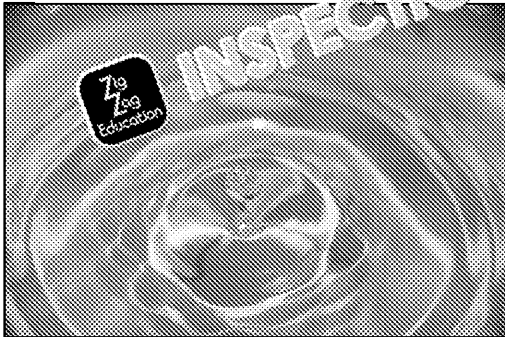
Explanation:

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Method:

Explanation:

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Method:

Explanation:

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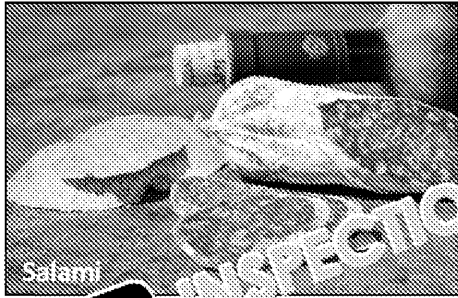
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3. Examine the pictures below. Assess whether you can eat each of the foods pictured. Explain your reasoning.



Salami

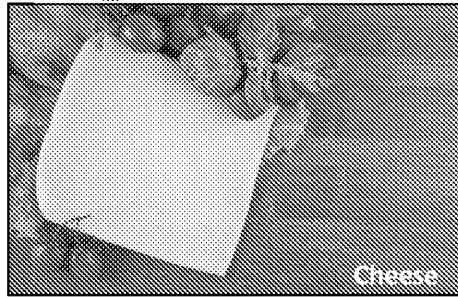


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Cheese

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Bread



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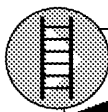
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SECTION C: ANALYSE AND EVALUATE

1. Yousef wants to make some bread, but he can't choose which recipe to use below and evaluate how each recipe will affect yeast action in the bread.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Recipe 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ bread flour ✓ instant yeast ✓ salt ✓ warm water | <p>Recipe 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ bread flour ✓ fresh yeast ✓ honey ✓ olive oil ✓ warm water |
|--|--|



EXTENSION: In the following activity a try to see how yeast is used in bread. www.bbc.co.uk/1/20133-yeast



2. **Oh no!** Esther has forgotten her lunch. Now she's going to buy a chicken sandwich from the canteen before it closes. But the sandwiches and fruit have been left out.

Analyse what microorganism growth and enzymic action might have occurred. Explain why Esther should not buy it.

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EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.1

1. Give **three** ways bacteria growth in ready-to-eat foods can be prevented.

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.1

2. Explain how blanching prevents enzymic action in vegetables.

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.1

3. Meredith bought a punnet of grapes but hasn't had time to eat them and now they are starting to go mouldy.

Analyse and evaluate how microorganisms and enzymes could have affected the grapes. Suggest how Meredith could control their effects next time.

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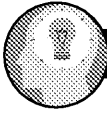
Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

3.4.1.2 SIGNS OF FOOD SPOILAGE



Knowledge checklist

- The process of **enzymic** browning
- The process of **mould** growth and recognising its signs
- The process of **yeast** action on food and crops



SECTION 4 DEMONSTRATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

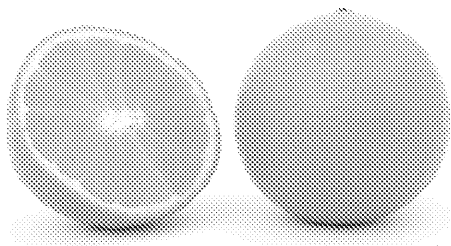


- Complete the table below by marking each statement as either true (T) or false (F) statements as you go.

| Statement | True/False | Correct |
|--|------------|---------|
| a) Mould reproduces via spores. | | |
| b) Mould is always visible on food. | | |
| c) Oxidation is caused by a lack of oxygen. | | |
| d) All mould is safe to eat. | | |
| e) Food affected by enzymic browning is safe to eat. | | |
| f) Wild yeast is harmless to crops. | | |

- Examine the following images. Describe how mould would affect each food item.

Oranges



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.....

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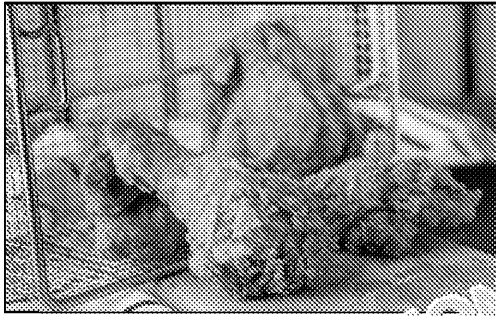
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Fried chicken

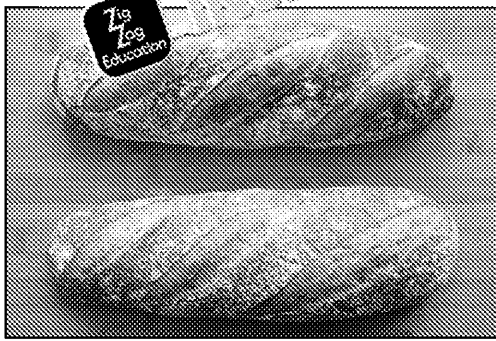
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Bread

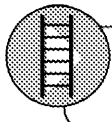
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EXTENSION: Consider preparation techniques that could be applied to fruits to restrict mould growth.

3. Order the stages of mould growth and reproduction. *(The first one has been done)*

| |
|---|
| The mould spores send down roots with fruiting bodies at the top. |
| Fruiting bodies ripen. |
| Mould spores land on a food. |
| The mould spores begin to germinate. |
| The mould sends down roots into the food. |
| Fruiting bodies burst and release a shower of spores. |

4. a) Name the reaction that takes place during enzymic browning.

.....

b) Tick the fruits and vegetables below that are involved by enzymic browning.

| | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| Onions | | Cucumber | |
| Cauliflower | | Blueberries | |
| Broccoli | ✓ | Potatoes | |
| Avocados | | Grapes | |
| Raspberries | | Apples | |

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SECTION 8: APPLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. a) Explain the process of enzymic browning on the banana.



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- b) Suggest **three** ways enzymic browning of fruit can be prevented.

1.

2.

3.

2. Using examples, explain the effect wild yeast has on fruit.

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.....



EXTENSION: You are going to make a fruit salad. Describe the active enzymic browning of fruits.

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SECTION C: ANALYSE AND EVALUATE

1. Anjali has bought a loaf of bread but isn't sure how to store it. She can put it in the freezer, the fridge or on the counter.
- Analyse the effect each storage method would have on microorganism growth.



EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.1

1. Which of the following actions will **not** cause enzymic browning?
- Grating an apple
 - Mashing an avocado
 - Roasting potatoes
 - Peeling a banana

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.2

2. Explain **two** ways of preventing microorganism action on produce.

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Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

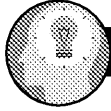
3.4.1.3 MICROORGANISMS IN FOOD PRODUCTION



Knowledge checklist

The processes of beneficial microorganisms in food production

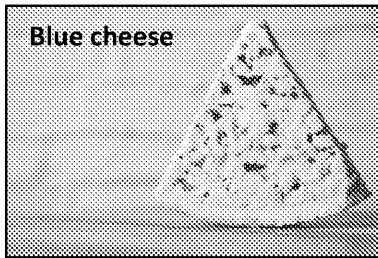
The processes of **mould** in blue cheese, **yeast** in bread and **bacteria** in yoghurt and cheese



SECTION 4 DEMONSTRATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE



- Examine the images below and identify the microorganism used in the production of each product.



- Complete the flow chart on the process of cheese production below.

| Stage of production | Why it's done |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Milk is pasteurised. | |
| 2. | Turns lactose into lactic acid, which aids preservation and coagulates proteins. |
| 3. | Coagulates milk, separating it into curd and whey. |
| 4. Curds are cut. | |
| 5. | Needs to be removed for cheese and other products, e.g. ricotta. |
| 6. Curd is dried. | Drains off the whey. |
| 7. Curd is milled. | Creates a better texture in final product. |
| 8. | Salt is added for flavour and preservation into a solid mass. |
| 9. Cheese is ripened/matured. | |

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b) State **two** ways mould can be added to cheese.

1.
2.

c) Describe why mould is added to some cheeses.

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SECTION 8: APPLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. When making cheese, bacteria cultures must be added after the milk is past

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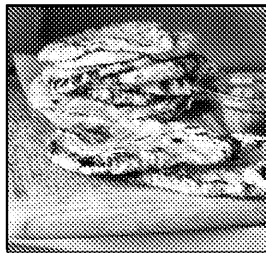
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2. Examine the two images below. The bread on the left has no yeast in it, wh Explain why the resulting bread is different.



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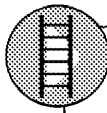
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EXTENSION: Make a list of bread recipes that don't require yeast, them a go and see how they turn out.

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SECTION C: ANALYSE AND EVALUATE

1. Assess how you can tell whether a mouldy cheese is safe to eat.



EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.3

1. Which microorganism is used to help ripen cheese?



GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.3

2. Give **two** ways bacteria affect yoghurt production and explain why each happens.



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Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

3.4.1.4 BACTERIAL CONTAMINATION

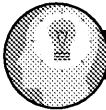


Knowledge checklist

The different sources of contamination

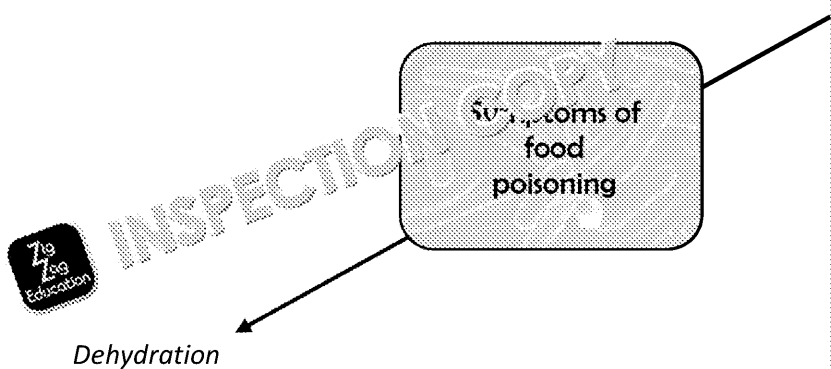
The main bacteria that cause food poisoning, their sources and methods of controlling contamination

Symptoms of food poisoning



SECTION 4 DEMONSTRATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Expand the mind map below by adding the main symptoms of food poisoning that have been given.



2. State **three** places bacterial contamination can come from.

1.
2.
3.

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3. Define the term 'cross-contamination'.

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SECTION 8: APPLICATION KNOWLEDGE



1. Explain how food poisoning occurs.



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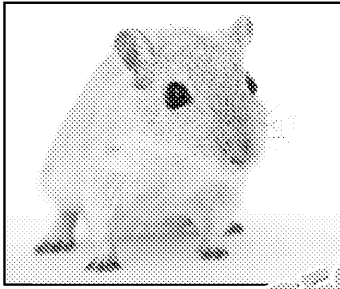
2. Fill in the table below, giving **at least one** source and **at least one** symptom

| Bacteria | Sources | Symptoms |
|--|---------|----------|
| Staphylococcus aureus  | | |
| Listeria | | |
| Campylobacter | | |
| E. coli | | |
| Salmonella  | | |

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3. Examine the images below. Explain how each can cause contamination.



Rodents (pests)

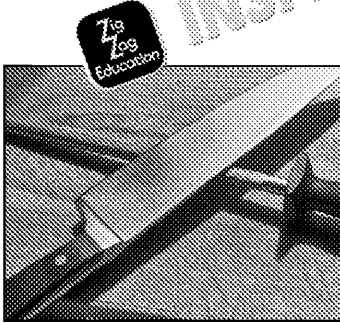
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Knives

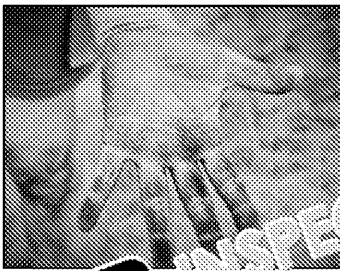
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Hands

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SECTION C: ANALYSE AND EVALUATE

1. Magda is making a prawn sandwich. First, she cooks the prawns, then she adds lettuce and mayonnaise.

Evaluate how Magda can prevent bacterial contamination while making this sandwich.

2. Evaluate whether raw or cooked foods are more likely to be contaminated by bacteria.



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EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.4

1. The temperature range that makes up the *danger zone* is:
 - a) 5–63 °C
 - b) 5–75 °C
 - c) 3–60 °C
 - d) 10–50 °C

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.4

2. Explain how food contamination can be prevented.

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.1.4

3. AJ made a chicken Caesar salad for a dinner party, which contained cos lettuce, Parmesan, mayonnaise, olive oil and white wine vinegar. The day after the party there was an outbreak of food poisoning and the cause was found to be AJ's salad!

Assess how the salad could have become contaminated with pathogenic bacteria and how this could be prevented next time.

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Topic 2: Principles of food

3.4.2.1 BUYING AND STORING FOOD

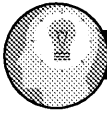


Knowledge checklist

Temperature control and the correct temperatures for freezing, chilling, storing, cooking and reheating food

Correct use of domestic fridges and freezers and the importance of covering

Food labelling and date marking

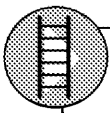


SECTION 4 DEMONSTRATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Below is an image of a fridge-freezer. Describe the correct use for each area of examples of foods that should be stored in each section.

The diagram shows a white fridge-freezer with its door open. Three callout boxes are connected to different parts of the interior by arrows:

- Top shelf:** A callout box pointing to the top shelf of the refrigerator compartment.
- Bottom shelf:** A callout box pointing to the bottom shelf of the refrigerator compartment.
- Drawers:** A callout box pointing to the drawers in the freezer compartment.



EXTENSION: Check your fridge at home and reorganise the contents of each shelf/compartment.

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2. Define what is meant by the 'food danger zone'.

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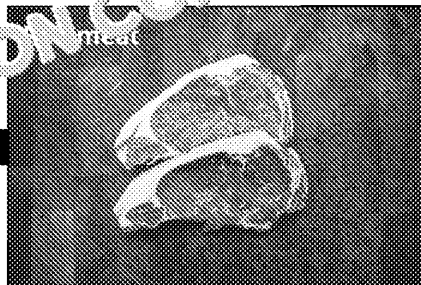
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3. Complete the table below by writing in the correct temperature that food should be cooked by the following cooking method.

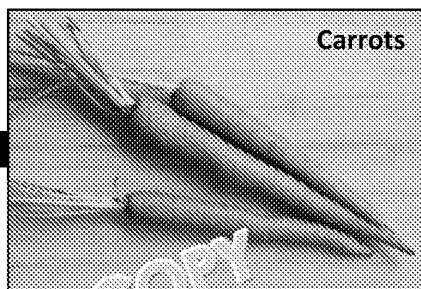
| Cooking Method | Temperature (°C) |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Cooling in fridge | |
| Boiling in water | |
| Freezing | |
| Cooking foods | |
| Cooling before refrigeration | |
| Reheating leftovers | |

4. Examine the images below. Give two quality checks for each when buying the product.

1.



1.



1.



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SECTION 8: APPLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Explain why food should be covered...

... on worktops

.....
.....
.....



... in the fridge

.....
.....
.....

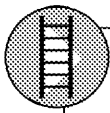
... in the freezer

.....
.....
.....



2. Explain the difference between the date marks 'use-by' and 'best before'.

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EXTENSION: Make a list of food products that will have use-by dates and which will have best before dates.

3. Define the term 'ambient storage'.



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SECTION C: ANALYSE AND EVALUATE

1. Kemi's fridge is broken and has stopped working. Assess the effects this could have on the food stored in it.
2. Owen can eat his leftovers cold or reheated. Evaluate which method would be the best.



EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.2.1

1. The correct temperature for a fridge is:
 - a) 3–7 °C
 - b) 0–5 °C
 - c) -2–3 °C
 - d) 3–7 °C

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.2.1

2. Give and explain **one** food safety rule for each storage and cooking method.
 - Freezing
 - Cooking
 - Reheating

GCSE PAPER 1: 3.4.2.1

3. Janaya wants to make dinner for her family and has decided to cook a beef stir-fry. She will need to buy all the ingredients and prepare them until the afternoon.

Explain the food safety principles that Janaya should follow when buying and preparing the ingredients.

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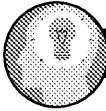
Topic 2: Principles of food

3.4.2.2 PREPARING, COOKING, AND SERVING



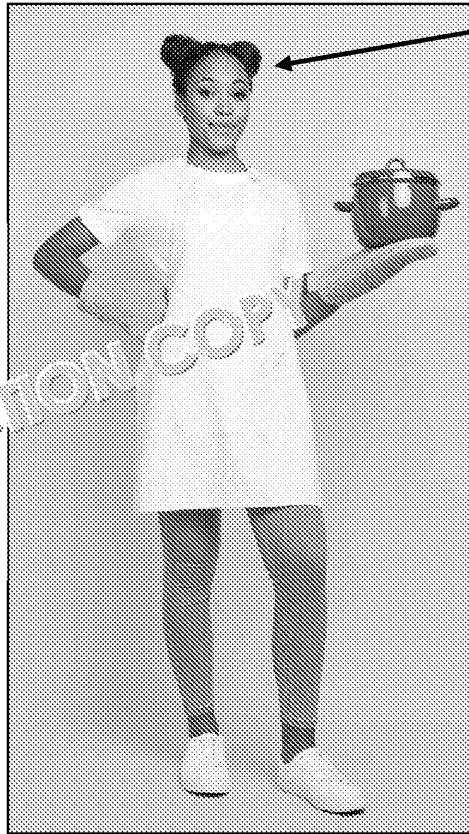
Knowledge checklist

| |
|--|
| Food safety principles when preparing, cooking, and serving food |
| How to maintain personal hygiene and keep workspaces clean |
| Correct cooking times, correct use of temperature probes and temperature control when cooking and reheating food |
| Handling high-risk foods |



SECTION A: DEMONSTRATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Label the image below with the personal hygiene rules you should follow with food. Add as many as you can think of.



2. Remy has just bought a new food temperature probe. Describe how to use

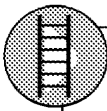
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EXTENSION: Other than using a temperature probe, make a list of readiness when cooking foods.

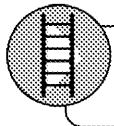
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3. Examine the table below. For each statement, mark it as either true (T) or false (F) for the statements you find.

| Statement | True/False | Correction |
|---|------------|------------|
| a) Food should be put in the fridge immediately after cooking. | | |
| b) Contamination of food is only caused by bacteria. | | |
| c) Hands should be washed only once; at the start of cooking. | | |
| d) Stock in fridges should be rotated so the newest ingredients are at the front. | | |
| e) If you cut yourself, you should put a brightly coloured plaster over the cut. | | |



EXTENSION: Make a poster to highlight the key tips for cleaning from food poisoning.



SECTION 8: APPLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE

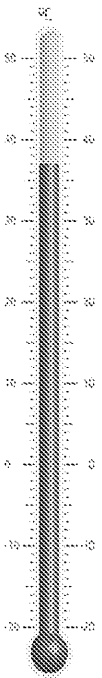
1. Explain **two** temperature control principles for the methods listed below.

Defrosting

1.
.....
.....
2.
.....
.....

Reheating

1.
.....
.....
2.
.....
.....



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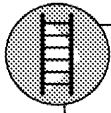


2. State and explain **three** food safety principles for workspaces.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

3. Compare food safety responsibilities of a waiter and a chef.

-
-
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-



EXTENSION: You have been tasked with making either fishcakes or you will take to prevent cross-contamination.

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SECTION C: ANALYSE AND EVALUATE

1. Deepra reheated some leftovers for dinner but got distracted. Two hours later her dinner had gone down to eat it.

Suggest why Deepra shouldn't reheat leftovers twice and eat this dinner.

2. Louis works at a small café that serves hot and cold food.

Discuss the food safety rules that Louis should follow when preparing, cooking





EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

1. Food probes should be:
 - a) Touching the pan
 - b) Inserted into the thickest part of meat
 - c) Inserted into the thinnest part of meat
 - d) Held on the surface of meat

2. Explain how personal hygiene affects food safety and risk of contamination.

3. The ZigZag Hotel is considering offering a buffet breakfast for its customers.

Assess the food safety risks a hotel buffet breakfast might present and explain how they can be prevented.

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Answers

Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

3.4.1.1 MICROORGANISMS AND ENZYMES

Section A

- Temperature (warm conditions)
Water (moist conditions)
pH (bacteria are generally neutrophiles, so grow best at pH 7.0)
Accept 'availability' or 'availability of food'
- Bacteria are single-celled organisms that are only visible under a microscope.
 - Yeast is a fungus that converts sugar into alcohol and carbon dioxide.
 - Moulds are microorganisms made up of certain types of fungi which spread spores.
- Enzymes are **CATALYSTS**, which means they speed up chemical **REACTIONS**. They are made of **PROTEIN**, and this means they must be **DENATURED** to control their effect. This can be done through the application of heat or **ACID** – for example, by **BLANCHING** vegetables by putting **LEMON JUICE** (citric acid) on fruit to prevent **BROWNING**.
- Answers may include:

Enzymes

- Ripen bananas
- Ripen tomatoes
- Cause enzymic browning
- Break down meat
- Break down fish

Moulds

- Grow on surface of foods
- Send spores down into food
- Make food inedible by producing toxins
- Spread spores between foods

Yeast

- Ferment fruit
- Produce alcohol and consume sugar, spoiling fermented foods and sugars
- Make bread rise however, too much and the food can become over-fermented

Accept any other suitable answers.

Section B

- Answers may include:
 - Any example of ready-to-eat food (moist foods usually high in protein that do not require heating), e.g. cooked meats and poultry, cheese, cooked fish, dairy products (e.g. yoghurt)
 - They may be left out at room temperature in the danger zone (between 5 °C and 60 °C) to grow faster.
 - If left out for extended periods of time, it provides microorganisms the time to multiply.
 - They are often high in protein, which provides a food source for the bacteria to grow.
 - They are often moist foods, providing a water source for bacteria to grow.

Accept other suitable answers.

2. Method 1: pH/acid

Explanation: As microorganisms multiply easily in neutral pH environments, acidifying food prevents them from multiplying due to their inability to survive in acidic conditions. Acids also denature enzymes and stop them from working.

Method 2: Drying

Explanation: Microorganisms need water to multiply, as they use it for chemical processes. Without water, microorganisms cannot grow, so drying food preserves it well.

Method 3: Temperature

Explanation: Microorganisms can grow and multiply easily from 5–63 °C – this is the danger zone. Above 63 °C, microorganisms become dormant and slower to multiply, while higher temperatures completely stop them from growing on food until it cools down again.

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3. Answers may include:

Salami

- If the mould is on the outside, on the casing, then it is safe to eat as edible mould is added to the outside of salami to regulate the rate at which it dries and to act as a preservative.
- If the mould is a different colour or is inside the salami, it is not safe to eat as it is not the outside casing; any other mould could produce harmful substances.
- Due to the cured nature of salami, mould has a harder time growing roots into the salami should be safe to eat if the mould is completely on the outside.

Cheese

- If the mould is consistent in colour and either follows distinct blue veins for blue cheese, then it is safe to eat as it has been used in the production of the cheese.
- If the mould is a different colour or occurs only in patches, it may not be safe to eat.
- Hard cheeses (e.g. Parmesan) and semi-soft cheeses (e.g. Cheddar) are difficult to grow roots into, so the affected part should leave the rest safe to eat.

Bread

- If there is mould on bread, it should not be eaten, as there is no edible mould on bread.
- You should not cut away the mouldy part and use the rest of the bread because the mould roots in, and once the fruiting bodies appear on the surface the rest of the bread is affected (although it is not always visible).

Accept any other suitable answers.

Section C

1. Answers may include:

- There are no free sugars in recipe 1, meaning the bread may rise more slowly and ferment.
- Salt can kill yeast, so if it is not added carefully in recipe 1, the bread may not rise.
- If the instant yeast in recipe 1 is old, the yeast may be dead and produce no carbon dioxide.
- In recipe 2, the honey and microwave sugar for the yeast to feed on, meaning the bread will rise more quickly due to more carbon dioxide being produced.
- Fresh yeast has a much shorter shelf life than instant yeast, so recipe 2 is more likely to succeed if the yeast is not rising.
- Both recipes use warm water, which will make the yeast more active due to the water being warmer.
- Both recipes are at risk of the yeast being killed by water that is too hot, which will prevent rising.

Accept any other suitable answers.

2. Answers may include:

- Any sliced fruit or vegetables may have begun to oxidise (the process of enzymes breaking down food, making it less pleasant to eat).
 - If the food was uncovered before it was purchased, bacteria and mould may have grown.
 - If the food was stored at room temperature, the temperature would be in the range where they multiply faster at room temperature.
 - If the food was uncovered, pests could have accessed the food and transferred bacteria to it.
 - A salad with a salad dressing containing vinegar or lemon juice would be less acidic, as the acid would have denatured enzymes, preventing them from working.
 - Fruit could be contaminated by wild yeast, which would begin to break down the fruit if it was not properly washed and stored this would lower the risk.
 - Stale bread could have mould growing on or in it.
 - Ready-made foods are often stored closely together, so mould spores could spread to other foods.
 - Ready-made foods are often wrapped and packaged, which would prevent mould from accessing them, preventing external growth.
 - Hot food is kept at 63 °C to prevent growth of bacteria, as bacteria cannot survive at this temperature.
- Accept any other suitable answers.

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Exam-style questions

1. **Max. 3 × AO2 marks for:**
Any 3 marks from:
- Store in the fridge at a temperature below 5 °C, i.e. below the danger zone.
 - Do not leave out at room temperatures for periods of time.
 - Ensure they are sealed in airtight containers.
 - Do not use past their use-by dates
 - Store away from raw foods to prevent cross-contamination.
- Accept any other suitable responses.*

2. **Max. 2 × AO2 marks for:**
1 mark for a basic explanation.
2 marks for a detailed explanation.

Indicative content

Blanching stops enzymic action because scalding vegetables in boiling water (at 100 °C) denature the proteins that make up enzymes, inhibiting their activity (1).

3. **Max. 8 × AO4 marks for:**

Levelled mark scheme

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 7–8 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanations are accurate and factual • Explanations are justified and related to analyses • Good balance between analysis and explanation • Includes specific and accurate references to the scientific and functional properties of microorganisms and enzymes |
| 5–6 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some accurate analyses are included • Some accurate explanations are included • Includes some references to the scientific and functional properties of microorganisms and enzymes |
| 3–4 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyses and explanations are limited • Explanations may be related to analyses • Includes limited references to the scientific and functional properties of microorganisms and enzymes |
| 1–2 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited analyses and explanations • Limited use of factual information • May only analyse or explain effects |
| 0 marks | No answer or no creditworthy answer given. |

Indicative content

Analysis

Yeast

- Wild yeast can settle on foods and begin to grow on them.
- Yeast would ferment the sugars in the grapes, producing carbon dioxide and alcohol.
- Fermentation would turn the grapes brown and mushy and make them unappealing.
- The growth of yeast on grapes would make them look unappealing.

Mould

- Mould travels as spores and can settle on food.
- Mould might appear as black spots or fuzzy white growth on the grapes.
- Mould can produce toxins or harmful waste products that contaminate food and make it unappealing.
- The waste products of moulds can make the grapes, texture, taste and appearance unappealing.

Bacteria

- Cross-contamination can transfer bacteria onto foods, e.g. insects attracted to grapes landing on them or touching the grapes.
- Physical contamination can transfer bacteria onto foods, e.g. waste products from grapes.
- Some bacteria produce harmful waste products that can cause illness if eaten.

Enzymes

- Biological catalysts present in many food items.
- Enzymes cause fruit to ripen and become sweeter.
- After extended periods of time, enzymes can cause fruit to overripen, becoming unappealing.

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Controlling effects

Washing

- Removes any wild yeasts or mould spores that have landed on them
- Removes any soil that might be contaminated with bacteria
- Removes any pests, e.g. insects or their eggs, that might contaminate the

Refrigerating

- Slows the reproduction of microorganisms
- Slows the rate of enzymic browning

Using within use-by date

- All foods have a use-by date they should be eaten by
- If you eat past the use-by date, grapes are much more likely to have been contaminated
- Leaving the grapes past their use-by date gives yeast and mould time to reproduce
- Leaving the grapes past their use-by date gives bacteria time to reproduce harmful waste products

Accept any other suitable responses.

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Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

3.4.1.2 SIGNS OF FOOD SPOILAGE

Section A

- True**
 - False** – mould can develop a network of roots beneath the surface of food, and fruiting bodies.
 - False** – oxidation is caused by chemical reactions in foods when they come into contact with oxygen.
 - False** – some moulds can germinate and produce mycotoxins, which can cause poisoning.
 - True**
 - False** – wild yeast will break down and ferment fruit it comes into contact with.
- Answers may include:

Oranges

- At first, moulds appear white
- Rapidly change to blue/green as spores develop
- Toxins may have spread throughout the food as green mould infects fruit through the surface

Fried chicken

- Discolouration of meat inside
- Visible mould growing on surface
- Sour or musty smell

Bread

- Musty smell
- Green or white fuzz as mould produces fruiting bodies on surface of loaf

- 1 – Mould spores land on food.
 - 2 – The mould spores begin to germinate.
 - 3 – The mould sends down roots into the food.
 - 4 – The mould spores send up shoots.
 - 5 – Fruiting bodies ripen.
 - 6 – Fruiting bodies burst and release spores.

- Oxidation reaction

| | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| Onions | ✓ | Grapefruit | |
| Oranges | | Blueberries | |
| Bananas | ✓ | Potatoes | ✓ |
| Avocados | ✓ | Grapes | |
| Raspberries | | Apples | ✓ |

Section B

- It occurs when fruit is cut, grated or bruised, as cell walls rupture
 - Enzymes are biological catalysts made from proteins
 - When these enzymes in the cells react with oxygen in the air, oxidation occurs
 - Making the banana go brown in colour
 - Any three from:
 - When cut, add lemon juice (citric acid inhibits enzymic browning)
 - Keep plastic wrap on them / use an airtight container (limiting oxygen)
 - Put them in the fridge (note the skin may go brown, but the cool slows down the reaction)
 - Keep out of direct sunlight (can increase the temperature) / keep in a cool place
- Examples may include: grapes, strawberries, raspberries, tomatoes, blueberries
 - Wild yeast can grow or settle on fruit
 - Once it does, it starts to grow and will ferment the sugars in the fruit (process of fermentation)
 - Breaking down the fruit and producing carbon dioxide and alcohol
 - The fruit will turn mushy and brown as it is fermented

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Section C

1. Answers might include:

Bread bin

For

- As a bread bin is explicitly for bread products, there is less chance of the bread being contaminated from other foods.

Against

- As a bread bin is kept at room temperature, it provides a better environment for mould growth.
- Mould spores can transfer easily inside a bread bin, so if there is other bread in the bin, it could contaminate the loaf.

Freezer

For

- As the bread freezes and is kept below -18°C , any bacteria or mould on it will become dormant.

Against

- ...however, if the bread is already contaminated, bacteria will begin growing again once it is thawed.
- Freezers contain lots of other food products which may be carrying dormant bacteria, which could be transferred to the bread if it isn't stored correctly.

Exam-style questions

- Award **1** mark for the correct response. **1 × AO1 mark** for:
 - Roasting potatoes** – roasting is a cooking method that causes browning through the Maillard reaction. The heat from roasting reduces enzymic action.
- Max. 4 × AO2 marks** for:
 - 1 mark** for a basic explanation.
 - 2 marks** for a detailed explanation.

Indicative content

- Washing thoroughly (1) to remove any soil that might contain bacteria or mould (1)
- Blanching vegetables (1) to denature enzymes and prevent browning (1)
- Adding lemon juice to sliced fruit (1) to denature enzymes and prevent browning (1)
- Storing perishable fruits, e.g. raspberries, in the fridge (1) to slow the growth of bacteria (1)
- Freezing produce (1) to make bacteria and mould dormant (1)

Accept any other suitable answers.

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Topic 1: Food spoilage and micro

3.4.1.3 MICROORGANISMS IN FOOD PRODU

Section A

- Blue cheese: **Mould** (accept bacteria as this is also used in cheese production)
Bread: **Yeast**
Yoghurt: **Bacteria**

2. a)

| Step | Production | Why it is important |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Milk is pasteurised. | Kills pathogenic bacteria. |
| 2. | Bacteria culture is added. | Turns lactose into lactic acid, which curdles the milk and coagulates proteins. |
| 3. | Rennet is added. | Coagulates milk, separating it into curd and whey. |
| 4. | Curds are cut. | To release as much whey as possible. |
| 5. | Whey is drained off. | Needs to be removed for cheese and other products, e.g. ricotta. |
| 6. | Curd is dried. | Drains more whey. |
| 7. | Curd is milled. | Creates a better texture in final product. |
| 8. | Cheese is pressed. | Salt is added for flavour and pressure is applied to form a solid mass / final product. |
| 9. | Cheese is ripened/matured. | Bacteria develop texture, colour and flavour. It is important to have a good place to control growth of moulds. |

b) Answers may include:

- Mould spores added with bacteria culture
- Sprayed onto cheese
- Cheese is dipped into a liquid containing mould spores

c) • Mould is added to ripen the flavour and appearance of cheese.

- Specific moulds are used to form the distinctive patterns of veins in blue cheese.
- Different moulds create a distinctive, earthy flavour that many people enjoy.
- Growing mould to the surface of a cheese also helps it to ripen without getting too soft or bacteria.

Section B

- Bacteria cultures are added after pasteurisation because the high heats used to sterilise milk also kill bacteria cultures as well, preventing them from coagulating the proteins in the milk and curdling it.
- The breads are different because yeast makes bread rise, so the bread without yeast does not rise. Yeast feeds on sugars in flour or added to the dough, converting them into carbon dioxide and rise.

Section C

- Answers might include:
 - Checking packaging and seeing whether the cheese is a blue cheese or a soft cheese.
 - If the mould is consistent across the whole of the cheese, it is likely that it is old and harmful mould has been allowed to grow extensively.
 - If there is only a small patch of mould, it may still be safe to eat if the affected area is removed. This only applies to hard cheeses, such as Parmesan, as the low moisture content makes it more difficult for mould to germinate on the cheese.
 - Patches of black, white or green mould are most likely to be harmful; cheese with these patches should be disposed of.

Accept any other suitable answers.

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Exam-style questions

1. **1 × AO1 mark** for:
Bacteria
2. **Max. 4 × AO2 marks** for:
1 mark for a basic explanation.
2 marks for a detailed explanation.

Indicative content

- Bacteria are used to thicken yoghurt as they convert lactose into lactic acid to become coagulated (1).
- Bacteria are used to make yoghurt (1) as the lactic acid produced gives yoghurt its characteristic taste (1).
- Cooling yoghurt and storing it in the fridge slows bacteria reproduction (1) as the cold temperature slows down the bacteria (1), giving the yoghurt a longer shelf life (1).

Accept any other suitable answers.

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Topic 1: Food spoilage and control

3.4.1.4 BACTERIAL CONTAMINATION

Section A

- Answers may include:
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhoea
 - Abdominal pain
 - Fever
 - Abdominal pain
 - Flu-like symptoms
 - Kidney failure
 - High temperature
 - Low temperature
- Answers may include:
 - Unwashed hands
 - Unwashed vegetables
 - Knives used to cut meat
 - Fur, droppings or saliva of animals
 - Insects
 - Chopping boards used to cut meat
 - Sneezing or coughing over food
 - Waste or rubbish that has been used to dispose of food

Accept any other suitable answers.

- Cross-contamination is the transfer of harmful substances, e.g. bacteria, from one food product to another or from non-food products or between food products.

Section B

- Food poisoning occurs when harmful bacteria contaminate food and are consumed in a person's digestive tract and spread, and symptoms of food poisoning will destroy all the harmful bacteria.
- Each box should contain **at least one** answer from:

| Bacteria | Examples | Symptoms |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooked meats Raw milk and dairy products Handmade foods (transferred by people; hands, mouth, nose) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdominal pain Low temperature Nausea Vomiting |
| <i>Listeria</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pâté Unpasteurised milk and products made with it Unwashed vegetables | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu-like symptoms Fatigue, high temperature Miscarriages Convulsions |
| <i>Campylobacter</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milk (especially unpasteurised) Raw meat and poultry Untreated water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdominal pain Diarrhoea (bloody) Fever Nausea |
| <i>E. coli</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beef, minced beef Raw seafood Unpasteurised milk Untreated water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdominal pain Diarrhoea Fever Kidney failure |
| <i>Salmonella</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raw or undercooked poultry and eggs Unpasteurised milk Unwashed vegetables | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdominal pain Diarrhoea Fever Vomiting |

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3. Answers may include:

Rodents (pests)

- Rodents are small and capable of climbing, so they can access pantries, cupboards and chew through packaging to get at the food inside.
- They may carry bacteria on their feet or fur, which will contaminate anything they touch.
- They may carry bacteria in their saliva or in their droppings, which will contaminate anything they touch.

Knives

- If separate knives are not used for different food products, they will transfer bacteria. For example, a knife used for meat is prepared before any other ingredients.
- Cutting unwashed vegetables with a knife can spread bacteria if there is any pathogen on the knife.

Hands

- Since we do most things with our hands, there is always a chance of pathogen transfer from hands to food under nails.
- As we touch, hold or carry other things, any bacteria on our hands will spread to those things.
- We often cough or sneeze into our hands, which will spread bacteria to anything we touch.

Accept any other suitable answers.

Section C

1. Answers may include:

- Using separate knives and chopping boards / work surfaces to prepare raw and cooked meats.
- Storing raw prawns on the bottom shelf of the fridge to prevent any juices dripping onto other foods.
- Storing cooked prawns in the fridge until ready to use.
- Washing lettuce to remove any soil, which might be contaminated with bacteria.
- Storing mayonnaise in the fridge.
- Storing lettuce in the crisper drawer at the bottom of the fridge to prevent any drips from other foods.
- Storing bread in dry conditions such as in a bread bin, or freezing it if not used for a long time to prevent the growth of mould which could contaminate other foods.

Accept any other suitable answers.

2. Students may consider:

Raw

- Raw fruit and vegetables may be contaminated by bacteria in soil, but thorough washing can reduce this risk.
- Non-perishable foods stored outside of a fridge are susceptible to pests, especially if stored in cardboard or thin plastic.
- Uncovered foods are susceptible to contamination as insects land on them.
- Foods stored in a fridge are susceptible to contamination from drips or from condensation if not stored properly.
- Raw meat is one of the most common causes of contamination.

Cooked

- Bacteria will be killed by high temperature during cooking, preventing them from growing.
- Cooked foods, if being stored for an extended period, are still susceptible to contamination.
- Cooked meats in particular are at risk, due to the moisture and protein they provide, which are ideal for bacteria to grow in.
- If left out at room temperature for a long time, bacteria will begin to grow again on cooked foods.

Accept any other suitable answers.

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Exam-style questions

1. Award **1** mark for the correct answer. **1 × AO1** mark for:
 - a) 5–63 °C – this is the temperature range in which bacteria and other microorganisms most easily.
2. **Max. 6 × AO2** marks for:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 5–6 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough knowledge and understanding of the causes of food contamination • Explanations are detailed and include examples of both starch and protein • Correct terminology is used. |
| 3–4 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good knowledge and understanding of the causes of food contamination • Explanations are given and at least one example is given. • Correct terminology is sometimes used. |
| 1–2 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic knowledge and understanding of the causes of food contamination • Explanations are limited and may include no examples. • Use of terminology may be attempted but is incorrect. |
| 0 marks | No answer or no creditworthy answer given. |

Indicative content

- Covering food properly so that pests cannot access it – as they may carry bacteria
- Cooking foods to correct temperatures which will kill bacteria and prevent them from growing
- Storing foods in the fridge or freezer to slow or prevent bacteria growth by making it difficult for them to grow
- Storing food on the correct shelf in the fridge to prevent contamination from drippings onto other foods/ingredients.
- Storing foods on shelves or in sturdy containers to prevent pests such as rodents
- Using foods within their use-by date to prevent contamination from microorganisms e.g. weevils in flour.
- Using colour-coded chopping boards and other equipment to prevent transfer of bacteria
- Cooking all food to an internal temperature of 70 °C to ensure all microorganisms are killed
- Not leaving food at room temperature for longer than four hours – as room temperature is ideal for microorganism growth

Accept any other suitable answer.

3. **Max. 12 × AO3** marks for:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 10–12 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed explanations with accurate factual information and terminology • At least four points about the causes of food contamination and their effects • Response shows a good balance between analysis and evaluation • Analysis is excellent and evaluation uses sound judgements to support the response • Response is specific to the scenario. |
| 7–9 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some detailed explanations with accurate factual information and terminology • At least three points about the causes of food contamination and their effects • Response may favour either analysis or evaluation. • Analysis is good and evaluation is used for some judgements and to support the response • Response is mostly specific to the scenario. |
| 4–6 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited explanations with some factual information that shows understanding • At least two points about the causes of food contamination and their effects • There is an imbalance between analysis and evaluation, with greater emphasis on analysis • Analysis covers at least two factors and evaluation is used to make judgements • Response is a mix of generic points and points specific to the scenario |
| 1–3 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response is very limited with few explanations that are not supported by facts • Only one factor is analysed and any evaluation is limited. • Response uses generic points without reference to the scenario |
| 0 marks | No answer or no creditworthy answer given. |

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Indicative content**Analysis***Temperature*

- Chicken could have been left at room temperature for too long before using
- Mayonnaise could have been opened and left at room temperature for too long
- Salad wasn't stored in the fridge until serving
- The fridge the dish was stored in was above 5 °C
- Dish was kept at room temperature for longer than four hours at the dinner party

Contamination

- Cos lettuce may carry salmonella on soil
- Insects could have been present on the cos lettuce and carrying pathogenic bacteria
- Cross contamination could have occurred if another dish contained pathogenic bacteria and was used to serve both dishes
- A person carrying pathogenic bacteria on their skin or in their mouth/nose could contaminate the dish through touch or by coughing/sneezing

Preparation

- Chicken could be undercooked
- Cos lettuce wasn't washed properly, leaving insects or soil on the leaves
- Mouldy bread used for croutons

Accept any other suitable responses.

Control measures*Temperature*

- Ensuring fridge temperatures are between 0 °C and 5 °C to slow reproduction
- Ensuring chicken reached an internal temperature of 75 °C when cooked
- Cooking chicken at home rather than buying ready-to-eat chicken, which may have been stored at high temperatures
- Keeping salad in the fridge up until the point it needs to be served
- Disposing of salad if it has been left at room temperature for longer than four hours

Contamination

- Storing raw meat at the bottom of the fridge to prevent juices from dripping onto other food
- Covering the fridge securely to prevent pests, e.g. insects, from accessing it
- Using individual serving utensils for different dishes
- Portioning out dishes instead of letting people take what they like at a buffet

Preparation

- Using colour-coded chopping boards for high-risk and low-risk ingredients, e.g. red for meat and green for vegetables
- Washing salad thoroughly to remove any dust, dirt or insects
- Checking bread for mould before making croutons
- Checking chicken for any signs of spoilage, e.g. an 'off' smell or discolouration

Accept any other suitable responses.

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Topic 2: Principles of food

3.4.2.1 BUYING AND STORING FOOD

Section A

1. Answers may include:

Top shelf

- Ready-made and ready-to-eat foods should be stored on the top shelf where they are least likely to be contaminated.
- Examples of non-perishable foods, e.g. cooked meats or leftover meals.

Second shelf

- Ready-made and cooked foods can also be stored on this shelf, above and separate from raw meat and fish.
- Examples: dairy products (e.g. cheese, milk, yoghurt, cream)

Bottom shelf

- Raw meat and fish should be placed on the bottom shelf of the fridge to prevent any drips and contaminating it.
- It is the coldest part of the fridge and you want raw meat and fish to be kept as cold as possible.
- It should be well wrapped to prevent leaks and reduce cross-contamination.
- Examples: raw beef, raw chicken, raw fish

Drawers

- Perishable fruits and vegetables should be stored in the drawers, which help retain the ideal humidity.
- Foods should be covered or wrapped to prevent any drips or contamination from raw meat).
- The drawers do not touch the back of the fridge to reduce the chance of any products falling out of the process.
- Fruit and vegetables should be washed and dried to remove dust, soil and bacteria before storing.
- Any examples of fruits/vegetables suitable for fridge temperatures, e.g. blueberries, strawberries.

Door

- Liquids should be stored upright to prevent leakage or spillage.
- Foods with preservatives should be stored here as it is the least cold part of the fridge.
- Examples: condiments, fruit juices, jam (after opening)

Freezer drawers

- Food should be tightly wrapped and covered to prevent freezer burn.
- Foods should be labelled with the date they are put in the freezer and their shelf life extended by freezing.
- Stock should be rotated so that most recent items go at the back of the drawer.
- Any examples of food suitable for freezing. Must be frozen immediately or by the end of the day.

2. The food danger zone is the range of temperatures between 5°C and 60°C in which bacteria grow most rapidly. Temperatures below this cause microorganisms to become dormant and stop reproducing. Temperatures above 60°C will kill most microorganisms.

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3.

| Method | Temperature (°C) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Chilling in fridge | 0 °C to below 5 °C |
| Boiling in water | 100 °C |
| Freezing | -18 °C (or lower) |
| Cooking foods | 75 °C (or above) |
| Cooling before refrigeration | 8 °C (or lower) |
| Reheating leftovers | At least 75 °C |

4. Answers may include:

Steaks

- Fat is creamy white, not discoloured
- Flesh is pink, not greyed and not greying anywhere
- Flesh is firm and not mushy

Carrots

- Carrots are firm with no soft spots
- No mould or discolouration on skin
- No sour smell

Fish

- Eyes are bright and shiny
- Flesh is firm, not mushy
- No overpowering fishy smell

Accept other suitable answers.

Section B

1. Answers may include:

Worktops

- To prevent pests from accessing the food – for example, flies could land on you and from their feet onto it, or could even lay eggs in the food.
- To prevent physical contamination from objects falling into the food – for example, a knife or a lid could drop onto it.

Fridge

- Food can absorb odours so if it is not properly covered it will either taint other food or by other, stronger smells in the fridge.
- If a food is still warm when refrigerated, covering it will prevent steam from escaping and the fridge will be less affected.
- To prevent liquid from other ingredients dripping onto food – especially juice from meat – to prevent bacterial contamination if it comes into contact with other food.

Freezer

- Wrapping food tightly in the freezer prevents it from freezer burn, which creates ice crystals and food loses water content.
- Chilled food being added to the freezer can still drip or contain bacteria, so food should be covered to prevent contamination.

- 2.
- The 'best before' date is the date until which food is at its best quality; after this date the food may be discoloured but will still be safe to eat.
 - The 'use-by' date is the date by which food should be used; after this date the food may be contaminated by microorganisms and will no longer be safe to eat.

3. Ambient storage means storing non-perishable foods at room temperature, with temperatures between 10 °C and 20 °C.

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Section C

- Answers may include:
 - Frozen foods will start to defrost; as they warm up, any bacteria present will be reproduce and multiply, leading to the food spoiling more quickly.
 - Dairy will curdle as bacteria become more active and produce more lactic acid
 - Lower-risk foods such as vegetables will last, but they may wilt more quickly in
 - High-risk foods will be at increased risk of spoilage as bacteria multiply in warm

Accept any other suitable answers.
- Students might consider:
 - Bacteria become dormant at lower temperatures and reproduce more slowly, microorganisms will grow on the chilled leftovers, making them safe to eat cold.
 - If reheated properly, it should reach 75 °C at its core and stay at that temperature for 2 minutes to ensure that all bacteria on the food are killed, making the food safe to eat.
 - Food stored improperly in the fridge is at risk of contamination from drips or frost; reheating the food to kill any bacteria will ensure any contamination is resolved.
 - If the leftovers contain meat, they should be reheated as meat is a high-risk food.
 - If the leftovers are vegan or vegetarian, they should be safe to eat cold as they do not contain meat.

Accept any other suitable answers.

Exam-style questions

- Award 1 mark for the correct response. 1 × AO1 mark for:
 - 0–5 °C – below 5 °C, the growth and reproduction of bacteria and other microorganisms is slow, so high-risk foods from spoiling too quickly.
- Max. 2 × AO2 marks for:
 - 1 mark for a basic explanation.
 - 2 marks for a detailed explanation.

Indicative content

Freezing

- The freezer should be at -18 °C or lower to ensure food is completely frozen and safe to eat.
- Wrap food tightly to protect it from freezer burn, which occurs when food oxidises.

Cooking

- Food should reach 75 °C at its thickest part as bacteria cannot survive temperatures above 75 °C.
- For rare meat, meat should be properly browned and sealed on the outside, with the inside cooked to the desired level.

Reheating

- Food should be reheated to 75 °C and remain at that temperature for two minutes to ensure that all bacteria are killed.
- Only reheat food once – allowing it to pass through the danger zone multiple times allows bacteria to multiply, and they may not all be killed by high temperatures.

Accept any other suitable answers.

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3. Max. 8 × AO4 marks for:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 7–8 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanations are accurate and factual • Explanations are justified and related to analyses • Good balance between analysis and explanation • Includes specific and accurate references to the scientific and functional properties of microorganisms and enzymes |
| 5–6 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some accurate analyses are included • Some accurate explanations are included • Includes some references to the scientific and functional properties of microorganisms and enzymes |
| 3–4 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyses and explanations are limited • Explanations may be linked to analyses • Includes limited references to the scientific and functional properties of microorganisms and enzymes |
| 1–2 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very limited analyses and explanations • Limited use of factual information • May only analyse or explain effects |
| 0 marks | No answer or no creditworthy answer given |

Indicative content

Buying

- Quality checks should be made for all ingredients to ensure there are no signs of spoilage
- Meat should be checked for discolouration, e.g. greying flesh or yellowing fat
- Vegetables should be checked for bruising or signs of pests, e.g. worms
- Packaging should be checked for damage, e.g. broken seals
- All ingredients should be within their use-by or best before dates – if an ingredient is close to its use-by date, it should be checked thoroughly for any signs of spoilage
- Soft herbs should be checked for discolouration
- Mushy textures in most ingredients are a sign of spoilage, e.g. vegetables and meat
- The shop that the ingredients are bought from should be checked for signs of pests
- Fridge and freezer temperatures in shop should be checked – -18 °C or lower for freezer

Storing

- High-risk foods, e.g. dairy and meat, should be stored at 0–5 °C in the fridge
- High-risk foods, e.g. dairy and meat, should be stored at -18 °C or lower in the freezer
- Vegetables should be stored at room temperature away from direct sunlight
- Salads should be kept in the drawers of the fridge, at 0–5 °C
- Raw meat should be stored on the bottom shelf of the fridge to prevent meat juices dripping onto other foods
- Ready-to-use ingredients should be stored at the top of the fridge
- Grains should be stored on shelves so rodents cannot reach them
- Dried products should be stored in sealed containers that rodents can't chew through
- Food with the most recent use-by date should be stored at the front to ensure it is used first

Accept any other suitable responses.

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Topic 2: Principles of food

3.4.2.2 PREPARING, COOKING AND SERVING

Section A

1. Answers may include:

- No jewellery
- No false nails or nail varnish
- Wear an apron to avoid contamination of clothes and food
- Wash hands frequently
- No sneezing
- No touching
- Use bright colours

Accept any other suitable answers.

- 2.
- The probe should be wiped and sterilised before use.
 - The probe should then be inserted into the thickest part of the meat or other food to ensure it cook through.
 - The probe should not go all the way through the food or touch the pan, as this could damage the pan.
 - The probe should be washed and sterilised after use.
- 3.
- False** – Food should be cooled to room temperature first, otherwise the steam will raise the temperature in the rest of the fridge.
 - False** – Food can also be contaminated by chemicals, allergens and physical objects like bones.
 - False** – Hands should be washed frequently; for example, after touching meat, handling raw eggs and after handling any chemicals.
 - False** – Stock should be rotated so that the oldest ingredients are used first, as indicated by dates and should be used first to reduce unnecessary waste.
 - True**

Section B

1. Answers may include:

Defrosting

- Food should be defrosted in the fridge or in cold water. Defrosting food at room temperature will defrost unevenly and smaller pieces will defrost more quickly and will be more likely to encourage microorganism growth.
- Food should be defrosted quickly in the microwave and cooked immediately. Food that is defrosted into the danger zone, where microorganisms can grow much more quickly.

Reheating

- Food should only be reheated once. Allowing it to pass through the danger zone increases the risk of microorganism growth.
 - Food should be reheated all the way through to 75 °C to ensure any microorganisms are killed.
- Accept other suitable answers.

2. Answers may include:

- Using colour-coded chopping boards, which will prevent cross-contamination of raw and prepared separately on different surfaces.
- Hands should be washed between handling different ingredients, particularly to prevent contamination from bacteria on hands.
- Washing equipment in warm soapy water as this will detach any bacteria from the drain.
- Raw and cooked foods should be stored separately in the fridge as this will prevent cross-contamination or from drips.
- Plasters should be brightly coloured (e.g. blue) as this makes them stand out if they fall into food (e.g. blue is a colour not found naturally in foods.)

3. Students may consider:

- Chefs should wash their hands more frequently as they are touching the food more often than waiters serving dishes.
- Neither should wear dangling jewellery that might fall into food.
- Both should avoid wearing strongly scented perfume or aftershave, as this can contaminate the food.
- Only chefs will be handling raw food, so they need to consider cross-contamination of equipment and food items, while waiters only need to transport food.
- Both should avoid touching their faces and coughing or sneezing around food.

Accept any other suitable answers.

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Section C

1. Answers may include:
- Each time food is cooled and reheated, harmful bacteria will multiply.
 - e.g. harmful spores found in starchy foods, especially rice, will not be killed by
 - As the food is cooked it goes above the danger zone, but as it sits it passes thr
 - The steam also creates a humid, moist atmosphere.
 - Bacteria grow rapidly in warm, moist conditions in time
 - Some heat-resistant bacteria may not be killed
 - The food may have been contaminated by pests, such as insects, which might s
 - Food has been left to stand at room temperature, which would allow microorga
 - more quickly.
 - Food could have been contaminated by anyone coughing or sneezing in the
- Accept any other suitable answers.

2. Students might consider:

Preparing

- Use colour-coded chopping boards for different ingredients.
- Wash hands after handling any high-risk ingredients.
- Cover foods properly to prevent contamination by pests, drips or contact with

Cooking

- Food should be cooked to 75 °C at its thickest point.
- Use a food temperature probe to check the temperature of foods.

Serving

- Food should be served immediately.
 - Food being hot held should be kept at 63 °C.
 - Foods should not be left to stand at room temperature for more than four hours
- Accept any other suitable answers.

Exam-style questions

1. Award 1 mark for the correct response. 1 × AO1 mark for:
- b) Inserted into the thickest part of the meat – this is because it takes the longest
2. Max. 6 marks for:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 5–6 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough knowledge and understanding of personal hygiene and its importance. Explanations are detailed and contain examples of both starch and protein. • Correct terminology is used. |
| 3–4 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good knowledge and understanding of personal hygiene and its importance. • Explanations are given and at least one example is given. • Correct terminology is sometimes used. |
| 1–2 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic knowledge and understanding of personal hygiene and its importance. • Explanations are limited and may include no examples. • Use of terminology may be attempted but is incorrect. |
| 0 marks | No answer or no creditworthy answer given. |

Indicative content

Personal hygiene

- Washing hands frequently
- Washing hands after handling high-risk ingredients, e.g. raw meat
- Washing hands after coughing or sneezing
- Wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), e.g. gloves, face masks, hairnets
- Wearing different footwear inside and outside the kitchen
- Removing jewellery, especially dangling jewellery, e.g. charm bracelets
- Using blue plasters to cover cuts on hands
- Not wearing perfume or cologne
- Keeping hair / facial hair short, or tying back long hair

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Effect on food safety

- Not washing hands thoroughly and frequently increases the risk of transferring *aureus* from sneezing or *salmonella* from raw chicken.
 - Gloves prevent bacteria being transferred from skin to food.
 - Face masks prevent contamination from facial hair or droplets from mouth/nose.
 - Hairnets prevent contamination from hair dipping or falling into food.
 - Not wearing outdoor shoes into the kitchen prevents bacteria or physical contamination being transferred from shoes or soil/manure on to the kitchen.
 - Blue plasters stand out in food as blue is a colour that rarely occurs naturally in food.
 - Dangling jewellery can carry bacteria or fall into food, which can lead to tooth contamination.
- Accept any other suitable responses.

3. Max. 12 marks / 6 x AO4 marks for:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 10–12 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed explanations with accurate factual information and terminology. • At least four points about food safety risks and how to prevent them. • Response shows a good balance between analysis and evaluation. • Analysis is excellent and evaluation uses sound judgements to support the analysis. • Response is specific to the scenario. |
| 7–9 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some detailed explanations with accurate factual information and terminology. • At least three points about food safety risks and how to prevent them. • Response may favour either analysis or evaluation. • Analysis is good and evaluation is used for some judgements and to support the analysis. • Response is mostly specific to the scenario. |
| 4–6 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited explanations with some factual information that shows understanding of the scenario. • At least two points about food safety risks and how to prevent them. • There is an imbalance between analysis and evaluation, with greater emphasis on analysis. • Analysis covers at least two factors and evaluation is used to make judgements to support the analysis. • Response is a mix of generic points and points specific to the scenario. |
| 1–3 marks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response is limited with few explanations that are not supported by factual information. • Only one factor is analysed and any evaluation is limited. • Response uses generic points without reference to the scenario. |
| 0 marks | No answer or no creditworthy answer given. |

Indicative content

Risks

- Many people have access to the buffet, and they may cough or sneeze on it or spit on it.
- Many people will be using equipment and utensils, allowing bacteria to spread to other foods or areas in the hotel.
- Hot holding is used for a lot of buffet food; if the food is not heated to the proper temperature, bacteria can grow and multiply in the food as the temperature is not high enough to kill them.
- Food may not be covered, allowing pests – flies in particular – to access and contaminate the food.
- Different foods are stored close together, and if there is mould present on any food, it can spread easily between food items.
- Some customers may use their hands to pick up food, potentially transferring bacteria to the food or pick up and put back.

Prevention

- Food should be adequately covered to prevent pests from accessing it.
 - Cooked food should not be kept at room temperature for longer than four hours.
 - Food that is being hot held should be kept at 63 °C or above to prevent microorganisms from growing.
 - Food that is being hot held should be hot held for longer than two hours.
 - Cooked food should be cooked to 75 °C to kill any microorganisms present on the surface.
 - Equipment should be cleaned thoroughly and replaced regularly.
 - Guests should be encouraged to use tongs to transfer the food from the buffet.
 - Guests should be encouraged to choose their food swiftly and without crowding the buffet.
- Accept other suitable answers.

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