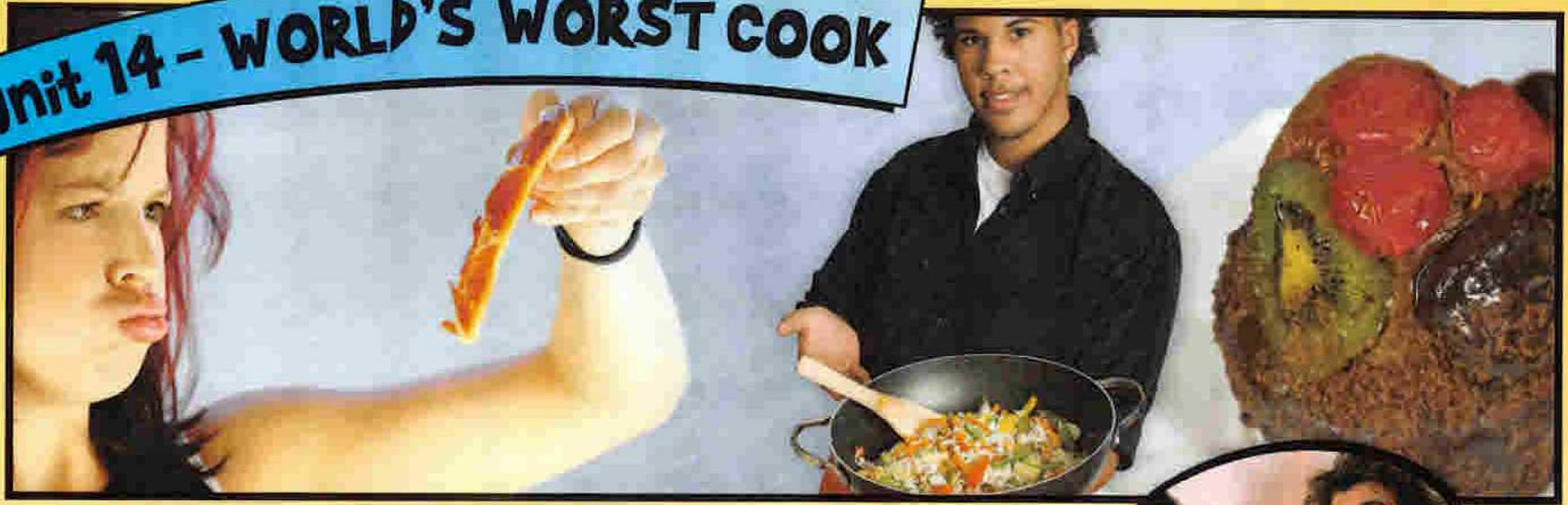


Unit 14 - WORLD'S WORST COOK



CONVERSATION STARTERS

COOKING SKILLS

Track 79



1 FIRST LISTENING. Listen. Who is good at cooking? Who is an awful cook?

Tracks 80-84



1. Emma

- a) can cook well.
- b) can't cook well.

- a) She learned cooking from her family.
- b) She hates cooking.
- c) She doesn't want to cook anymore.



2. Simon

- a) can cook well.
- b) can't cook well.

- a) He loves making sushi.
- b) He loves authentic dishes.
- c) He only likes local food. He doesn't like ethnic foods.



3. Scott

- a) can cook well.
- b) can't cook well.

- a) He thinks cooking is too tricky.
- b) He makes only simple dishes.
- c) Most of his dishes are very fancy.



4. Sheng-Li

- a) can cook well.
- b) can't cook well.

- a) His specialty is seafood dishes.
- b) He always makes the pan too hot.
- c) He wants to learn more cooking secrets.



5. Pia

- a) can cook well.
- b) can't cook well.

- a) She always burns the toast.
- b) She teaches at cooking school.
- c) She's learning how to cook.

2 SECOND LISTENING. Listen again and answer the questions.

BONUS:  Discuss with a partner.

1. Are you a good cook? An OK cook? An awful cook?
2. What can you cook?

Check the script and try the **LANGUAGE AWARENESS** activity on page 94.



1 EXPRESSIONS. Look at the phrases below. Which phrases mean you "can do" something? Which mean that you "cannot do" something?

Can _____

1. I'm (really/pretty/kind of) good at...
2. I really stink at...
3. I'm not very good at...

Cannot _____

4. I'm (really) bad/(absolutely) terrible/(totally) hopeless at...
5. ...is not my strong suit
6. I'm a whiz at...

2 VOCABULARY. Match these phrases with the best pictures.

- ___ 1. remembering people's names
- ___ 2. solving computer problems
- ___ 3. singing karaoke
- ___ 4. speaking in front of people

- ___ 5. dancing
- ___ 6. speaking English
- ___ 7. writing stories
- ___ 8. drawing pictures



HOW THE GRAMMAR WORKS:

Pattern 1 optional
PERSON + BE + (ADVERB) + QUALITY + AT + ACTION
I am really good at remembering names.
I'm really good at sports.

Pattern 2
PERSON + BE + A/AN + QUALITY + NOUN
He is a fantastic teacher.

Be careful
I'm a whiz at and *I really stink at* = English SLANG
UK English: ...is not my **strong point**/I'm a **whiz at**...

3 LET'S PRACTICE.

With your partner, make 8 short conversations. Use the expressions in step 1 and the vocabulary in step 2. Then add 2 of your own questions!

Example:

A: How are you at remembering people's names?

B: Ah, I'm totally hopeless at that!

CONVERSATION MODEL

I'M HOPELESS!

1



SITUATION. Listen to the conversation.



2

SUBSTITUTION. Connect the words and phrases the columns.

(1)

make some cookies
play this song
do my homework

(2)

the guitar
writing essays
baking

(3)

Let me read it
Let me taste one
Let me hear it



HOW THE PRONUNCIATION WORKS:

Use tone for sarcasm:

'thanks' in a high tone → we really mean it
'thanks' in a low/flat tone → we are sarcastic

3

PRACTICE. Work with a partner.
Practice the conversation.
Use the substitutions.
Then use your own ideas.



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

WHO CAN DO IT BEST?

1 GET READY. Your class is planning a class party. You need volunteers. Read the list of volunteer positions below. Are you able to do it (✓) or not (X)?

ROLE	ME? YES, I CAN / NO, I CAN'T	WILL YOU VOLUNTEER?
Decide a theme for the party		
Choose and decorate the place where the party is		
Make invitations		
Greet people who come to the party		
Play music, sing or DJ for the party		
Dance at the party		
Cook hors d'oeuvres (starters)		
Prepare the main dish for the party		
Prepare a dessert for the party		
Clean up after the party		

2 LET'S TALK. Share your answers with your group. Decide who will volunteer for each position.

Example:

A: I'm really bad at drawing, so I can't make the posters.

B: Well, I'm good at it, so I'll be in charge of making the posters.



3 FOLLOW UP.
Compare your list with another group.
Who offered to take on the most roles?
Who offered to help the least?



ERIK'S CONVERSATION TIP

Informal English and Slang

There are a lot of informal and slang expressions in English. It is important to know these to understand spoken English. It's also useful to be able to use these when chatting with friends. But, there are also many cases when we should avoid using informal language; for example, when writing and when talking in formal situations or with people you don't really know.

BONUS: Speaking Activity

1. If you can't do something the first time, what do you do? Do you keep trying or do you give up?
2. What is something you want to learn how to do?