



This week...

Monica and Wakana are talking about some of the differences between the eating habits of Japanese people and the eating habits of Western people.

Lesson Targets

- Learning about eating customs
- Talking about different habits

Daily English Conversation

Advanced Class

Warm Up – Topic Question



What is one of your eating habits?

Picture Description

What is that dog doing?



A



B



What is she eating?

C



What are they cooking?



Wakana Thanks for coming to eat ramen with me for lunch.

Monica I always enjoy eating out at ramen places in Japan, but I can't believe how many people slurp their food.

Wakana It's supposed to make the ramen taste better. When I slurp my ramen in front of James, he looks at me in a strange way.

Monica Does James have any strange eating habits?

Wakana He often eats while walking on the street. It really annoys me.

Monica It is not uncommon for Western people to walk while they eat.

Wakana I am sure there are many other cultural differences when it comes to eating habits.

Monica Yes, but for me I try to respect the customs here as much as possible.

Wakana I wish James would have the same attitude.



Thanks for coming to the class to talk about eating habits.

1. Thanks for coming to
2. I always enjoy eating out at
3. It's supposed to
4. It is not uncommon for



Role Play – Eating Customs

Student A is visiting Japan for the first time. Student B is teaching Student A some of the eating customs that people follow in Japan.



A: This is my first trip to Japan. Could you tell me about some of the eating customs of Japanese people?

B: Sure. Before starting a meal **Eating Customs**. Continue the conversation using the **Key Phrases** and the **Eating Customs** from below.

Key Phrases

- What does that mean?
- What should I do?
- How should I?
- Is there anything else I should know?
- It is considered very impolite to
- Make sure you
- You should also be careful not to
- *Other*

Eating Customs

Before the meal

- put your palms together and slightly bow in front of your meal and say “Itadakimasu.”

Chopsticks

- never stick your chopsticks in your food.
- don't pass food using your chopsticks.

Eating noodles

- it is OK to slurp your noodles.

After the meal

- at the end of a meal say “Gochisosama deshita.”
- *other*

True or False

* Choose a topic below and tell a short story that is either true or not true. The other students in the class and the teacher ask one question each about the story. Then they guess whether your story is true or false.



1. I never go out to eat ramen.
2. I think slurping noodles is very rude.
3. I use chopsticks to eat every day.
4. I never cook western food at home.

1. Which country was the first to use chopsticks?

- A:** Thailand
- B:** Japan
- C:** China
- D:** Vietnam

2. In Spain, which is the main meal of the day?

- A:** dinner
- B:** lunch
- C:** brunch
- D:** breakfast

3. In which country do people wait to eat until the oldest person has started the meal?

- A:** China
- B:** South Korea
- C:** Thailand
- D:** Canada

4. In which country is it considered rude to eat directly from a fork?

- A:** Finland
- B:** Malaysia
- C:** Singapore
- D:** Thailand



- Are dietary habits in Japan changing?
- Do you think it is impolite to slurp ramen?
- If you were living abroad, what is the food you would miss the most from home?

- annoy - *My boyfriend always **annoys** me when I eat.*
- difference - *What's the **difference** between soba and udon?*
- habits - *Do you have any bad eating **habits**?*
- respect - *We must **respect** the culture here.*
- rude - *It is **rude** to slurp your food in Australia.*
- strange - *He is a very **strange** person.*
- uncommon - *Is it **uncommon** to do that in your country?*
- while - *Do you sometimes eat **while** driving?*