



Part 1: Restaurants

Do you often eat in restaurants?

Well, I wouldn't say I eat in restaurants super often. Before the lockdown started, my girlfriend and I would eat out every two weeks **or so**. But, ever since we've been under lockdown, all of the restaurants have been **shut** and we've had to cook at home or order **takeout**.

Which do you prefer, eating at home or eating in a restaurant?

The food I cook tends to be healthier than restaurant food, and I quite enjoy the process- well, apart from the washing up. I do like to go to a restaurant **from time to time**, but I like the experience to feel special rather than **the norm**. For example, I'll go to a restaurant to spend time with friends or family- I wouldn't necessarily go alone.

Have the kinds of restaurants you like changed over the years?

Hmm, they actually have. When I was a student in London, I'd always eat in inexpensive vegetarian restaurants that were near my **uni**. However, after living in Shanghai for a couple of years, I **got much more into** Asian food. I tried Chinese hotpot for the first time, Korean barbecue and Vietnamese pho. Now, when I eat out, I'll very often choose to eat in a Vietnamese restaurant or even a Thai restaurant- I really love Thai food.

How do you choose which restaurant to go to?

Well, I guess it all depends on the occasion. If there is something to celebrate or it's a special occasion, I'll ask around or read reviews of different fancy restaurants. But, if I'm in town and hungry, I'll usually just look for nearby restaurants that already have people eating inside. It's probably not the best way, but seeing other people eating inside is usually an indication (that) the food is pretty good.

Useful vocabulary

Or so

Approximately.

*"Before the lockdown started, my girlfriend and I would eat out every two weeks **or so**."*

Shut

Closed.

*"But, ever since we've been under lockdown, all of the restaurants have been **shut** and we've had to cook at home."*

Takeout

Food to take away (or eat at home).

*"... all of the restaurants have been shut and we've had to cook at home or order **takeout**."*

From time to time

Sometimes.

*"I do like to go to a restaurant **from time to time**."*



The norm

Something that is usual or ordinary.

*"I like the experience to feel special rather than **the norm**".*

Uni

University (informal, colloquial).

*"I'd always eat in inexpensive vegetarian restaurants that were near my **uni**."*

To get into (something)

To grow to like something.

*However, after living in Shanghai for a couple of years, I **got much more into** Asian food".*

Write your answer

Do you often eat in restaurants?

Which do you prefer, eating at home or eating in a restaurant?

Have the kinds of restaurants you like changed over the years?

How do you choose which restaurant to go to?



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