

VOCABULARY

On the table

It's Valentine's Day this month, so why not invite your loved one to a candlelit dinner for two? ANNA HOCHSIEDER presents language to talk about what's on the table.

MEDIUM PLUS

A festive dinner

It was a Valentine's Day that Lucy would never forget. Phil, her boyfriend, had **invited her for a meal** in his flat. Knowing Phil, she expected a Chinese **takeaway** to be eaten with plastic **chopsticks**, and shop-bought ice cream **for dessert**. Instead, she was greeted by **mouth-watering smells** coming from the kitchen. The **dining table** was **set** with **white linen** and **porcelain crockery**. The **cutlery** and **glassware** reflected the light of two **candles** in silver **candlesticks**. **Knives**, **forks** and **spoons** were arranged in the correct order. A **wine cooler** holding a **bottle of champagne** stood on the **sideboard**.

Phil **pulled out a chair** for Lucy and sat down opposite her. Then a man carrying a **tray** appeared from the kitchen and **served** them **appetizers**. Four more **courses** followed. The **meal was rounded off** by a **delicious** chocolate mousse.

When the **hired chef** had **poured** the coffee and retired to the kitchen, Phil pulled something from his pocket and took hold of Lucy's hand. Can you guess what happened next?

- 2. candlestick ['kænd
 lst1k]
- 3. pepper mill ['pepə mil]
- 4. jug [dʒʌɡ] UK,
- pitcher ['pɪt∫ə] N.Am.
- 5. salad bowl ['sæləd bəul]
- 6. salad server ['sæləd ˌsɜːvə]
- 7. cup and saucer
- [,kʌp ənd 'sɔːsə] 8. cutlery ['kʌtləri],
- flatware ['flætweə] N.Am.
- 9. table mat ['teɪbəl mæt] UK, place mat ['pleɪs mæt] N.Am.
- 10. serviette [ˌsɜːvi'et] UK, napkin ['næpkɪn]
- 11. napkin ring ['næpkın rıŋ]
- 12. lid [11d]
- 13. tureen [tju⁹/ri:n]
- 14. ladle ['leɪdəl]
- 15. table runner ['teɪbəl ˌrʌnə]
- 16. serving dish ['sɜːvɪŋ dɪʃ]
- 17. serving spoon ['sɜːvɪŋ spuːn]
- 18. tablecloth ['teɪbəlklɒθ]
- 19. carving knife ['kɑːvɪŋ naɪf]
- 20. dinner plate ['dınə pleit]
- 21. bread basket ['bred _ba:skit]
- 22. salt cellar ['so:lt ,selə] UK, salt shaker ['so:lt ,feikə] N.Am.
- 23. pepper pot ['pepə pot] UK, pepper shaker ['pepə , [eɪkə] N.Am.
- 24. gravy boat ['greivi bout]

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PRACTICE

Now try the following exercises to practise talking about what's on the table.

Exercise 1

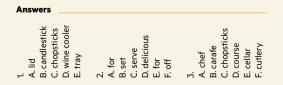
Odd one out: cross out one word in each line that does not belong in the same category as the other words.

A. cutlery:	dessert spoon fish knife ladle lid
B. crockery:	candlestick saucer soup plate tureen
C. glassware:	carafe champagne glass chopsticks wine glass
D. table linen:	napkin tablecloth table runner wine cooler
E. furniture:	chair dining table sideboard tray

Exercise 3

Write the missing letters to complete the six words in the sentences below. All the words begin with a "c".

- B. He <u>poured</u> her some wine from the **c** , which stood on the sideboard.
- C. Chinese food should be eaten with **c** _____, not with a knife and fork.
- D. The main **c** was fish, followed by lemon cake.
- E. The salt **c** is empty. Can you refill it, please?
- F. All the **c** can go in the dishwasher except for the steak knives.



Exercise 2

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Underline the correct option in each sentence below.

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- A. Let's invite Aunt Sally **at / for** dinner next Sunday.
- B. Can you help me arrange / set the table, please?
- C. Shall I **pour** / **serve** the soup?
- D. The lamb is **delicate / delicious**. My compliments to the chef.
- E. There's ice cream **for / to** dessert home-made, not shop-bought.
- F. Would you like some cheese to round **off**/**up** the meal?

Dish

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The word **dish** has a number of meanings. Here are some of them.

A dish is a flat, open container in which to cook or serve food:

- Who broke my lovely blue porcelain dish?
- **A dish** is also food prepared in a particular way and served as part of a meal:
- Do you have any vegetarian dishes?

The dishes (plural) are all the plates, bowls, glasses, etc. that have been used for a meal and that need to be washed up afterwards:

• Let me help you wash the dishes.

If you **dish something up** or **out**, you put food into dishes or on to plates so that it can be eaten:

• Can you dish out the vegetables, please?



pour[por]
 einschenken