

Unit 11. Shopping for a Big Dinner

Emily was preparing for a big family dinner, and she wanted everything to be perfect. She had always believed that good food brings people together, and tonight's gathering was special. It had been years since the entire family had gathered in one place. As she made her shopping list, she considered what containers she needed to store leftovers and which tools she would use to cook. She only hoped she hadn't forgotten anything important. If she had not prepared so carefully, the dinner might not be as successful as she imagined.



At the grocery store, Emily thought about the different shapes and sizes of the food she was buying. She needed three pounds of potatoes, two and a half cups of flour, and one-third cup of sugar for her famous pie. It was important to measure everything accurately to ensure the dishes would turn out correctly. She had never cooked for such a large group before, so she was careful to double-check all the measurements. She wondered if there was anything she should have left out or added differently.

Back in the kitchen, Emily took out her tools: a large pot, a cutting board, and her measuring cups. She knew that using the right tools was essential to achieving the best results. She also needed to follow the recipe instructions precisely. Cooking terms like "simmer" and "whisk" were common to her now, but she remembered how confusing they had been when she first started cooking. As she worked, she focused on the texture and appearance of the ingredients, shaping them into the perfect forms for her dishes.

Finally, as the dinner came together, Emily thought about how her beliefs and opinions had shaped the way she cooked. She believed in using fresh, natural ingredients and avoiding shortcuts like pre-made mixes. Her family appreciated her cooking, and she wanted to make sure they enjoyed this meal as much as the others. She also reflected on how important it was to follow the steps accurately if she had not, the food might not have tasted as good. It was a milestone moment for her, hosting the entire family and using all the skills she had learned.

1. Match the following words from the text with their definitions:

1. Simmer <i>c</i>	a) A tool used to mix ingredients together.
2. Whisk <i>a</i>	b) To check the quantity or size of something..
3. Measure <i>b</i>	c) A slow, gentle method of cooking just below boiling.
4. Container <i>e</i>	d) Doing something correctly and without mistakes.
5. Accurately <i>d</i>	e) An object used for holding or storing something.

2. Answer the following questions based on the text:

- Why was the dinner special for Emily and her family?
- What ingredients did Emily need to make her famous pie?
- What tools did Emily use in the kitchen to prepare the meal?
- How did Emily feel about using fresh, natural ingredients?
- Why did Emily believe following the steps accurately was important?

3. Fill in the blanks with the correct unit of measurement (e.g., grams, cups, teaspoons, liters, etc.) to complete the sentences below.

- Emily needed 2 _____ of sugar to make the pie.
- She measured 500 _____ of flour for the cake.
- The recipe called for 1.5 _____ of olive oil.
- Emily used 3 _____ of salt to season the dish.
- For the soup, she added 1 _____ of water.

Complete the following sentences with your own ideas, imagining what Emily or you would do in hypothetical situations related to preparing for a big dinner.

- If Emily didn't have enough ingredients, she would _____.
- If Emily had more time to cook, she would _____.
- If I were in charge of preparing a big dinner, I would _____.
- If Emily couldn't find her cooking tools, she would _____.
- If the family couldn't come to the dinner, Emily would _____.

Writing

Write a short paragraph (6-8 sentences) about a time when you had to prepare for a special event. Include the following in your paragraph:

- What the event was and why it was special.
- What tools or items you needed to prepare.
- How you felt during the preparation.
- The final result and how you felt afterward.

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