

Part 7

You are going to read a magazine article about four different campers. For questions 43-52, choose from the people (A-D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Which person or people:

likes being in the open air surrounded by wildlife?

43

gives an example of people working together to solve a difficult situation?

44

doesn't want to meet the people he/she works with when on holiday?

45

mentions something you can't do on campsites?

46

has enjoyed camping for many years?

47

likes to make last-minute decisions about where to go on holiday?

48

talks about making friends while staying at campsites?

49

50

has been to the same campsite more than once?

51

sees price as a main priority?

52

when my friends were playing and vice versa. The hours that have to be worked by chefs are quite ridiculous. They have to arrive at their restaurant by 11.30 morning, at the latest, to prepare for lunch. They work all afternoon dealing with the business side of the establishment and developing new recipes. Then, they must prepare for evening service probably finishing into bed in the small hours of the next morning feeling absolutely shattered.

Sharing my love of fine food and wines with good friends in the relaxed atmosphere of my home has more than compensated for not owning a restaurant. Being a professional chef probably would have meant that, by now, I would be sick of the sight of food, much as I am completely turned off by the mere mention of anything to do with the law.

Planning a meal for people I love is a great pleasure. I have a vast collection of cookery books and I am as big a fan of many a TV chef. The problem I have, though, is choosing what to cook from so many different possibilities. How do I choose? Well, that depends very much on the friends. A starting point has to be catering for their own likes and dislikes and trying to avoid serving them the same dishes

Generally, my cooking has become less complex and pretentious over the years and, although I use recipe books and TV chefs as inspiration, I tend to find that the best way of deciding what to cook is to see what is available when I do the shopping. What I cook is controlled by what I have been able to buy. I might have had one or two vague ideas but, more often than not, I am scrabbling through pages of recipes trying to find something new to do with some scallops, a leg of lamb and a punnet of raspberries. I nearly always buy some crème fraîche, a bunch of coriander and some seasonal vegetables. My store cupboard is pretty good and I can usually find all the spices I need, together with onions, garlic, chillies and boring stuff like flour, butter and so on. I strongly believe that if you have good ingredients you will be able to turn out something worth eating.

At the end of a meal there is nothing better than settling down with a strong espresso and a dish of the very best chocolates. The very best of friends can normally provide an entertaining conversation but, to me, the finest compliment I can be paid is that they aren't afraid of gently nodding off. It shows that they feel satisfied, relaxed and happy as a result of my efforts!

The Joys of Camping

Camping has been a popular choice for holiday accommodation for a long time but it seems that now its popularity is on the increase. Kate Reilly speaks to 4 dedicated campers and finds out why they prefer to pitch their tents or park their camper vans rather than stay in hotels or rent apartments.

A Ben: a teacher

For Ben the most important thing is to find a cheap and affordable option during the busy school holidays. 'Because I have to go away during the peak season when all the schools are on holiday it's often difficult to find cheap hotel deals or holiday flats for rent,' he explains. In addition to this he enjoys the flexibility camping offers. 'I'm not that good at planning ahead and like to be spontaneous with my travel plans. The fact that it's not usually necessary to pre-book to stay at a campsite suits me very well. I also like that I can go away to more obscure and remote places and get away from the students I spend all year in the classroom with.'

C Cathy: finance director

Cathy is looking for a contrast from her stressful working life when she goes on holiday. She says, 'I love being outside and the freedom camping offers. I spend all day in the office when I'm at work and have to be very organised to meet tight deadlines, so when I'm on holiday I like to be in the fresh air and be able to do exactly what I want when I want; camping is perfect for that. Of course there are some rules you have to respect like you're not allowed to make noise after 11 or 12 at night but I like that. I love going to sleep listening to the insects in the trees or the waves on the beach.'

B Eli and Catriona: doctor and medical researcher

Eli and Catriona explain why camping is the perfect holiday for families. 'We used to go camping when we were much younger, before we had children and loved it but now we have the boys it makes even more sense. There are so many child-friendly campsites with swimming pools and special activities for kids. It's so nice for them to have lots of space to run around in and other children to play with. It also means we have time to ourselves to really relax. We've actually been to the same campsite for 2 years in a row now as we all had such a good time there the first year. The boys are still in touch with friends they made there last year so we might well go back again this year too.'

D Melissa and Stefano: salon manager and marketing director

For Melissa and Stefano it's the friendly atmosphere that means they keep going back to campsites year after year. 'We've travelled around the whole of Europe in our camper van and every year we meet so many interesting people and make friends with people from all over the world. Everyone is always so helpful when you stay on a campsite. If you need to borrow something like matches your neighbours will always help you out. One year we got the back wheels of the camper van stuck in the sand and it took ten of our new neighbours to help push it out. Everyone came rushing over to help as soon as they saw there was a problem and most of us didn't even speak the same language. It was a wonderful feeling; you don't get that in hotels.'