

Lesson 14 Oral Practice

- A. I heard that you know Desheng. B. Yes, ever since he was introduced to me by my aunt, we've been very good friends.
- A. Which school is he studying at? B. At MIT.
- A. What is his major? B. He is a graduate student majoring in chemistry.
- A. No wonder he looks like a bookworm. B. Don't be fooled just because he acts like a bookworm, actually he has many hobbies.
- A. What kinds of hobbies does he have? B. Lots, for example, he is skilled at cooking Chinese food.
- A. Really? He knows about Chinese cooking and eating? B. Yes, he often tells me that Chinese cuisine involves a lot of knowledge and many different principles.
- A. What kinds of knowledge and principles? B. He says people from different places have their own eating habits.
- A. I know this. E.g. Sichuan people like hot and spicy; Cantonese like mild food that is a bit sweet. B. But Desheng says that in addition to the necessary ingredients, if ginseng is added when cooking meat, the meat will be much more nutritious.
- A. What else besides this? B. He says some Chinese dishes are tastier when stir-fried, some are tastier when boiled. If you eat too many cold-natured vegetable, they are bad for your stomach and give you diarrhea; if you eat too much of a "hot" natured vegetable you will suffer "excess interior heat".
- A. Ha, very interesting. B. He also says delicious dishes should have good color, be tasty, and smell good. That is to say, the dish should look nice, smells nice, and be tasty.
- A. You must let Desheng know when you see him that I want to learn how to cook authentic Chinese food from him. B. I will let him know when I see him.