

Language summary

Grammar

Present passive

Statements

Tamales **are steamed**.
The fish **is fried** in oil.

Yes / no questions

Is the chicken **roasted**?
Are the eggs **boiled**?

- Use the present passive to place the focus of a sentence on the receiver of the action.
- The usual *active voice* places the focus on the doer of the action.
Passive voice: *The peppers are grilled.*
Active voice: *My mother grills the peppers.*

Time clauses

Main clause

Heat some water
Cut the fish into small pieces
Fry the meat in oil
Add the peppers
Take the sauce off the fire

Time clause

until it boils.
before you steam the fish.
after you salt the meat.
once the garlic is hot.
as soon as the sauce boils.

- When the time clause is placed before the main clause, it is followed by a comma.
After you fry the onions, put them in the soup.
- In time clauses with future meaning, use a present tense. Don't use *will* or *going to*.
As soon as he arrives, I'll call you. NOT *As soon as he will arrive, I'll call you.*

Vocabulary

Food preparation

bake
boil
fry
grill
melt
microwave
roast
steam

Tastes and textures

bland
chewy
creamy
crispy
crunchy
salty
sour
spicy
sticky
sweet

Functions

Giving a recommendation

Why don't you . . . ?
If I were you, I'd . . .
My recommendation would be to . . .

Accepting a recommendation

That's a good idea.
Sounds good to me.
OK, I think I'll do that.