Like & Would Like- Food Roleplay Dialogue

Imagine you are standing in your kitchen planning to make lunch for your partner. Find out about your partner’s general likes and dislikes, then ask about what they want to eat for lunch today. Ask about general categories of food first, then decide exactly what you will prepare, e.g. “a ham and egg sandwich on brown bread with mustard and mayonnaise”. You get one point for each word in your description of something that they have never tried but agree that they would probably like, e.g. five points for “a bacon and banana sandwich.”

Useful language for finding out about likes and dislikes and making suggestions

**Asking about likes and dislikes**
- What kind of… do you like?
- Do you like…?
- How do you feel about…?
- Have you ever tried…? How was it?

**Explaining your likes and dislikes**
- I love…
- I really like…
- I quite like…
- I don’t really like…
- I don’t like…
- I really don’t like…
- I hate… I can’t stand…
- Yes, I do. (I love that/ I really like that).
- Not really.
- I’m afraid not. (I really don’t like that./ I hate that.)
- I’m not sure. I’ve never tried that. (What’s it like?)

**Making suggestions**
- If you like…, you would love…
- I think you would like… (because) it’s…

**Responding to suggestions**

**Positive responses**
- That sounds good. I’ll try it.
- Yes, I might like that. I’ll give it a try.
- That sounds good. I think I’d like that.

**Negative responses**
- Actually, I don’t think I would like (very much) that because…
- No, I don’t think so. It’s not really my kind of thing. (I don’t like…/ I hate…)
- Actually, I’ve tried that (a few times/ many times) before. (I… it).

Do the same, but this time pretending that you have little food in your kitchen. After you have decided what you will cook, tell your partner what they need to go and buy at the local supermarket so that you can prepare it, including how much/ how many of those things you need.

Written by Alex Case for UsingEnglish.com © 2016
Suggested general categories of food to talk about

- American food
- Asian food
- Boiled food
- Bread
- Chinese food
- Curry
- Desserts/ Sweets
- Dips
- Exotic food
- Fast food
- Filling food
- Finger food
- (Deep) fried food
- Healthy food
- Indian food
- Indonesian food
- Italian food
- Japanese food
- Junk food
- Korean food
- Meat
- Mediterranean food
- Mexican food
- Middle Eastern food
- North African food
- Raw food
- Red meat
● Rich food
● Salad
● Salty food
● Sandwiches
● Seafood
● Snacks
● Soup
● Southeast Asian food
● Spanish food
● Spicy food
● Starters
● Stews
● Sweet food
● Thai food
● Tripe (kidney, liver, heart, etc)
● Vegan food
● Vegetarian food
● Vietnamese food
● Western food
Like and would like language presentation

*Without looking above, brainstorm phrases into the gaps below.*

**Asking about likes and dislikes**

**Explaining your likes and dislikes**

**Making suggestions**

**Responding to suggestions**

**Positive responses**

**Negative responses**
Use the mixed answers below to help with the task above.
● Actually, I don’t think I would like (very much) that because...
● Actually, I’ve already tried that. I... it.
● Actually, I've tried that (a few times/many times) before. (I... it).
● Do you like...?
● Have you ever tried...? How was it?
● How do you feel about...?
● I don’t like...
● I don’t really like...
● I hate.../ I can’t stand...
● I love...
● I quite like...
● I really don’t like...
● I really like...
● I think you would like... (because) it’s...
● I’m afraid not. (I really don’t like that./ I hate that.)
● I’m not sure. I’ve never tried that. (What’s it like?)
● If you like..., you would love...
● No, I don’t think so. It’s not really my kind of thing. (I don’t like.../ I hate...)
● Not really.
● Thanks for your suggestion. I’d love to.
● That sounds good. I'll try it.
● What kind of... do you like?
● Yes, I do. (I love that/ I really like that).
● Yes, I might like that. I'll give it a try.

Check your answers with the first page.

What’s the general difference between “like” and “would like”?