

2 Focus on Reading

A READING ONE: *The Chinese Kitchen*

Eileen Yin-Fei Lo is a cooking teacher and cookbook writer. In the reading, she celebrates the cooking traditions of her native China as she remembers her childhood days growing up in her family's kitchen.

Read the first paragraph. Write three questions that you think will be answered in the reading. Then read the rest of the story.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

THE CHINESE KITCHEN

BY EILEEN YIN-FEI LO
(from *The Chinese Kitchen*)

1 **F**ood is not only life-giving but also a source of familial or societal leanings.¹ Our food is inextricably linked with manners, with form, with tradition, with history. I grew up with these beliefs. I remember my father, Lo Pak Wan, my first cooking teacher, telling me that we must eat our food first with our eyes, then with our minds, then with our noses, and finally with our mouths. He believed this. He taught this to my brother and me.

2 He would say, only partly joking, that fine vegetables should be chosen with as much care as one would a



¹ *leanings*: tendency to agree with certain beliefs