



Learning Common Foods and Drinks in Another Language

KS2 MFL

KS3 MFL

Ages 10-14 ⌚ 3 min read

Why Learn Food Words in Another Language?

Learning the names of **common foods and drinks** is one of the best ways to start speaking a new language. Food is something everyone talks about every day—whether you're ordering lunch, asking for a snack, or saying what you like to eat. These words are **practical** because you'll actually use them in real conversations.

When you travel to a **Spanish-speaking country**, a **French-speaking country**, or a **German-speaking country**, being able to name foods helps you order in restaurants, shop at markets, and make friends. Plus, food words often sound fun and interesting, making them easier to remember than some other vocabulary.

Think of it like learning the controls on a video game—once you know the basic buttons (food words), you can play much better!

Common Foods in Spanish

In **Spanish**, bread is **pan**, water is **agua**, and apple is **manzana**. A chicken is **pollo**, cheese is **queso**, and rice is **arroz**. You might ask for **leche** (milk), **huevos** (eggs), or **pan tostado** (toast). These words appear on menus across **Spain, Mexico, Argentina**, and many other countries.

Food Words in French and German

In **French**, bread is **pain**, water is **eau**, and cheese is **fromage**. A **French restaurant** menu might list **poulet** (chicken), **poisson** (fish), and **poire** (pear). The word for wine is **vin**, and coffee is **café**.

German speakers say **Brot** for bread, **Wasser** for water, and **Käse** for cheese. You'll find **Huhn** (chicken), **Fisch** (fish), and **Apfel** (apple) on German menus. The word **Milch** means milk, and **Bier** means beer—a drink very popular in German-speaking countries.

Think of it like how 'pizza' sounds similar in Italian, Spanish, and English—languages often share words for foods that travelled around the world!

How to Remember Food Words

One helpful trick is to **group words by meals**: breakfast words together, lunch words together, and snack words together. Another method is to **label items in your kitchen** with sticky notes showing the foreign language word. You can also watch **cooking shows** or **food videos** in your target language to hear how native speakers pronounce these words naturally.

Learning food vocabulary opens doors to understanding a whole new culture. When you know how to talk about food in another language, you're not just learning words—you're learning about how people live, what they enjoy, and what makes their country special.