Food Preparation & Nutrition Yr9 Food – Term 1/ Autumn

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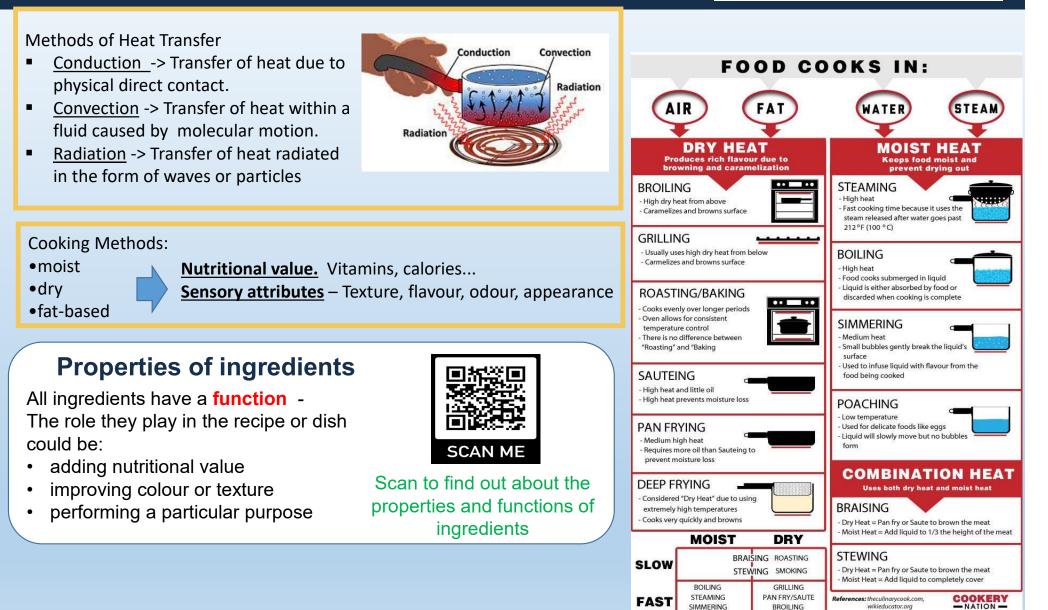
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PROTEINS

Most foods contain proteins, such as <u>collagen</u> <u>in meat</u>, <u>gluten in wheat flour</u> and <u>albumin in egg white</u>

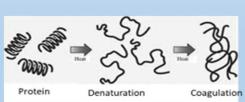
Denaturation is the change in structure of protein molecules. The process results in the unfolding of the protein's structure and makes the food more palatable.

Factors which contribute to denaturation are <u>mechanical</u> <u>action, heat, salt and pH.</u>

Denaturation can be reversible or irreversible.

<u>Coagulation</u> follows denaturation. For example, when egg white is cooked it changes colour and becomes firmer (sets). The heat causes egg proteins to unfold from their coiled state and form a solid, stable network.

Coagulation is irreversible.





ENZYMIC BROWNING

The rapid browning of fruit (particularly when cut) is to do with enzymes that are contained within.

Enzymes are exposed to oxygen and other molecules and trigger a rapid browning reaction.

Oxidation can also affect the nutrient content of a food. The longer a food is exposed cut opened to air, the less vitamins it will have.

However, some foods (like raisins) se a favourable enzymic browning to change their colour and enhance flavour. There are several methods that can be used to prevent or reduce unwanted enzymic browning, including:

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-Blanching (hot water for few time)

- -Refrigeration or freezing
- -Acidulation (lemon juice)

NON-ENZYMIC BROWNING

Non-enzymic browning refers to a number of different processes and reactions that can make foods 'brown' where oxygen is not involved. These processes are:

- Dextrinization: STARCH -> DRY HEAT -> DEXTRINS -> COLOUR/TASTE
- Caramelization: SUGAR -> DRY/MOIST HEAT -> CARAMELZATION
- Maillard reaction (see right)







