



*Nombre de la materia*

*INGLÉS*

**The Cultural Flow of Food in Cinema**

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In this increasingly interconnected world, food provides one way for people to make sense of lives and cultures. The globalization of food is a major theme in much of popular culture. Food becomes a medium that mobilizes the acceptance of difference. It is known to be a great "uniter." People who identify with certain foods wish to identify with the cultures that create those foods.

As food brings people together, so does the concept of food in the film industry. Many international directors have created movies exploring the global flow of food and how it interconnects different peoples and relationships. The genre of food in films commenced in the 1980s and is progressing each year with new ideas and new ways in describing food's essence and the stimulus it provides. Films, like *Babette's Feast* (1987) and *Chocolat* (2000), touch upon the idea that food reawakens the senses and allows space for new discoveries.

In films like *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* (1994) and *Mostly Martha* (2001) food was used as a metaphor to bring different nationalities and families together. Food represents a form of communicating, relating, and growing together and resolve conflict. For example, in *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman*, every Sunday night a Taiwanese family eats a huge meal together. Although they never communicate during the week, when they sit down to eat, they talk about and resolve their personal conflicts.

In the movies described, food offers a magical element, guiding the individual towards acceptance, forgiveness, love, and understanding. These films demonstrate how the concept of preparing and consuming food offers new senses of renewal and acceptance as well as reawakening the passions, leading to a more fulfilled and valued life.

QUESTION 1: State in your own words what the author means when he says: (aprox. 3 lines maximum) (0,5 points): "The globalization of food is a major theme in much of popular culture"

QUESTION 2: Do you like trying new/ different types of food? Why? (aprox. 3 lines maximum) (0,5 points)



QUESTION 3: Say in each case whether the statement is true or false according to the text. Write **T (True)** or **F (False)**. If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it as false. ( 2,5 points)

- \_\_\_\_\_1. Food may help people to understand different cultures.
- \_\_\_\_\_2. If you dislike a type of food is because you hate a particular culture.
- \_\_\_\_\_3. It was in the 1980s when this type of films emerged.
- \_\_\_\_\_4. The author considers that using food in films does not help in real life.
- \_\_\_\_\_5. *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* shows the spectator a metaphoric view of Taiwanese life style.

QUESTION 4: ( 3,5 points) These words/ expressions are all found in the text: *movies, forgiveness, huge, reawake, explore, week, popular, life, essence, renewal*. Choose 7 words that mean the same as the following (2 extra words do not correspond with any of the definitions)

- \_\_\_\_\_ i) favorite, famous, well-known;
- \_\_\_\_\_ ii) big, enormous
- \_\_\_\_\_ iii) inquire, investigate, research, study
- \_\_\_\_\_ iv) films
- \_\_\_\_\_ v) a period of seven days
- \_\_\_\_\_ vi) to become awake or conscious
- \_\_\_\_\_ vii) pardon, the act of not punishing an offence

QUESTION 5: (3 points) Choose **a, b, c**, after each statement. Only one answer is correct.



\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Food is a good theme in films because:

- a) People love the cultures portrayed by foods in films.
- b) As the author argues, food creates links between countries.
- c) It is another way of learning about other cultures.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The author believes that

- a) Countries are globally connected.
- b) Today communication between countries is augmenting.
- c) Films allow people to communicate with each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. When the author talks about the global flow of food, he means that:

- a) Nowadays people know more about different types of food than before.
- b) People do not like the exportation of food from other countries.
- c) Different types of food are being exported to European countries.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Films like *Babette's Feast* are examples of:

- a) How to organise a good feast for a party.
- b) Ways of eating.
- c) How eating can produce many different physical sensations.