



24 Local specialties

1.61 Ian King has traveled from Atlanta to Tampa, Florida, on business. His host, Rebecca Larsen, has taken him out to dinner.

Rebecca: Well, Ian, it's a pretty long menu. What would you like?

Ian: This is my first visit to Florida. I'd like to try a local specialty.

Rebecca: Something local? OK ... the seafood is always good.

Ian: Sounds fine.

Rebecca: Hey! There's something real local on this menu. You won't find this outside Florida.

Ian: I'll try it! Um ... what is it?

Rebecca: Gator tail.

Ian: Pardon?

Rebecca: Gator tail ... alligator tail.

Ian: You're kidding me.

Rebecca: No, I'm not. It's not real popular. It's just a novelty for the tourists - there's an alligator farm right outside Orlando.

Ian: I don't know ...

Rebecca: It tastes just like chicken. You have to try it, Ian. You can tell everyone back home in Britain that you've eaten alligator.

Ian: Well, OK. But only if you have it, too.

Rebecca: Ah. Now, that's different! How about some fish? That's a specialty. They have fresh Grouper and Red Snapper. They're both typical of Florida. And of course you just have to try Key Lime Pie for dessert. Now, that's real special ...



1 **1.62** Read the dialog below. Then listen.

Student A: What food is a specialty of France?

Student B: Escargots.

Student A: What's that?

Student B: It's snails.

Student A: Have you ever eaten snails?

Student B: Yes.

Student A: What did they taste like? Did you like them?

2 Ask and answer similar questions about these other local specialties.

- a Japan, Sashimi (raw fish)
- b Spain, Gazpacho (chilled vegetable soup)
- c Florida, Key Lime Pie (pie with cream and lime juice)
- d New England, Clam Chowder (fish soup with clams)

3 Read back and highlight all the words you would find on a menu. Which are starters? Which are entrées? Which are desserts?

4 COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

Student 1 - Go to Communication Activity G
Student 2 - Go to Communication Activity T

Culture File **24** Food taboos

5 Select a menu of local specialties for a visitor to your town or country. Describe the specialties to another person.