**B2-C1\_MATERIAL FOR THE TEACHER**

**Table I:** **Food in short stories**

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| Ben Okri: | “The Mysterious Anxiety of Them and Us” |
|  | The narrator recounts a seemingly uneventful episode associated with a lavish feast during which some of the attendees start eating while the others are waiting for no apparent reason. The ones who eat feel guilty. |
|  | **Task I:** Describe a feast which you have attended. What was the setting like, what kind of food was served, how did people get ready for it, what was the significance of this get-together for you and your family or friends? Recount what happened on this very day, yet this time from the perspective of a small child who happened to be there. |
|  | **Task II:** If you were to shoot a movie about this short story, what elements would you include and how would you interpret the ending when the narrator and his wife file out and walk off? |
| Pippa Goldschmidt: | “Potato Pancakes” |
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|  | The narrator revisits her childhood days in which an elderly woman – nobody really knows where she came from – is remembered for her culinary skills. When the latter gets sick and is bed-ridden, the narrator brings her pancakes prepared with a bit of a twist. |
|  | **Task I:** Discuss the quote, “*Food is a way of seeing and participating in the world*.” Do you agree with this statement? How does the protagonist perceive the world and its inhabitants through the very food she tastes and eats? Do you associate certain food items with specific persons and if so, who are they? Next, recount an unforgettable episode – a “kitchen story” – you have experienced. If you are short of one, make one up and tell it as plausibly as you can. |
|  | **Task II:** Write down two of your favourite dishes (look up ingredients) and describe where you tasted them for the first time. Who prepared these dishes and how did this person prepare them? Tell your deskmate how one of the dishes gets prepared without naming the dish. The other person is supposed to find out what the dish is called. Switch roles. |