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“No Soup for You!” Anyone remember the Seinfeld episode?

Thursday, August 08, 2013

I had a similar experience in the university cafeteria yesterday.

First all the good stuff. I like Slovak food. There's lots of carbs all the time, but somehow the population looks remarkably fit and trim. I've had all kinds of potatoes (except French fries), the classic pirohy and even some halusky. There's LOTS of great bread everywhere and even McDonalds has a bakery.

We're living in the dorm so mostly we're eating what students eat.

Breakfast is a selection of eggs, yogurt, fruit, bread/rolls, meat and cheese, tomatoes, cucumbers and of course pastry. Some kind of sausage too, but I'm not a fan.

Lunch and dinner for the first few days were served typical school cafeteria style. Grab a tray and go through the line and tell the staff what you want. There's been a good selection. I really liked the spinach lasagna.

Yesterday they had an entrée of chicken schnitzel. My grandmother used to make that. I even requested it in Slovak. The server guy said NO – pork or pizza. Maybe I misspoke? So I pointed and said in English – Chicken, please? No! Pork or pizza.

Now I'm confused. I can see others in the dining room with the chicken and I see it in the serving bin. Why does this guy want me to eat pork or pizza? Not really a big deal. I'm not anti-pork so I took it and it was fine. No one seems to know why the guy decided to dictate my menu although one other student said it happened to him too.

The course is going well. The groups have been reshuffled and I've happily landed in level 4 (of 12) where I feel quite comfortable and hope to clean up my fractured self-taught grammar.

We have 2 more days of this unusual hot weather. A cool front is expected Saturday to drop the high temp from 97 to 77. Just in time too. We have a field trip to Devin Castle.

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WILSONWR

What a strange experience! I'm at least glad you got in a better class where you can actually learn more. Have fun!
2866 days ago



CD14034154

Brooklyn,

I do remember that episode of Seinfeld, and I really understand the whole thing. Now hearing your episode, I had to laugh, as I finally understood, after all of these years!!

Be blessed,

- Nancy Jean -
2866 days ago



WATERMELLEN

I would have WAAAAAY preferred the chicken schnitzel: don't eat pork. Glad you're more easy going than me!!

I can remember driving through a pounding rainstorm to a B&B in Vermont where we had reservations: first words from the "host" were, "No supper tonight!" They'd decided not to open the dining room because they had very few guests. We had no food, were miles (through the mountains and rain) to get back to a restaurant . . . and they had fired up their BBQ and made steaks for themselves!! DH and I were in fits of hilarity over that one!!
2866 days ago



SOFT_VAL67

We have a bizarro Soup Nazi working at our new Subway, lol, I will request permission to video or at least take a pic of him next time I go in there.

The fellow is Pakastani I do believe and never ever stops smiling, never stops asking if you want anything else and how are you, etc.



It is refreshing to have someone who is so happy in their job.

2866 days ago



GINIEMIE

Oh my a persnickety server! Glad you got moved to lower level. I used to tell some of my French students, it's okay to go back a step to make sure you've got the grammar and vocab covered. It's horrible to scramble to try and catch up.

 for sharing with us. 



2866 days ago



BOILHAM

I remember the soup Nazi on Seinfeld.
Maybe your guy was low on chicken and saving it for his friends.

2866 days ago

Comment edited on: 8/8/2013 2:05:58 PM



LINDAKAY228

Those cooler temps will sure be nice! Glad you got into a class you feel much more comfortable with.

2866 days ago



OBIESMOM2

maybe you'll get a nice armoire out of the deal

2866 days ago



CD13834395

My mom cooked chicken schnitzel all the time when we were young. I still make it for the grandkids - they think it's some kind of chicken nuggets. LOL. Glad you got settled in a class you like. Strange about the server - but pork IS the other white meat...

Thanks for letting us have this peek at your life! I'm enjoying it immensely!
2866 days ago



CELIAMINER

Never watched Seinfeld, but I can imagine. Glad you are having such a rich experience!
2866 days ago



**SUZYMOBILE**

I've been in a few Seinfeld situations myself. One local restaurant refuses to put salt or pepper on the tables because they claim their food is perfectly seasoned and they don't want patrons to salt it before they eat it. If you ASK for salt, you get the lecture.

You didn't ask for bread with your chicken, did you? That's what triggered the Soup Nazi's refusal.
2866 days ago

**SARAWALKS**

Dorm food is always an Experience! I'm remembering being in a dorm in Graz, Austria...and the leberkäse suppe...yes, that's little liver dumplings in the soup...and the ubiquitous gemischtes salat that everybody complained about...ha!



2867 days ago

**CD12146214**

That is one of my favourite episodes.....guess this guy thought you should stick to veggies and fruit huh!
2867 days ago

**TRAVELGRRL**

Funny story!

It seems like a day doesn't go by that either DH or I find ourselves in a "seinfeldesque" situation! We start many conversations with, "Doesn't this remind you of the Seinfeld episode where...."

Anyway, glad you are in a better group and are enjoying the food!
2867 days ago

**PHEBESS**

Funny about the "no chicken for you" - who knows?

But this is such an exciting adventure you're on!
2867 days ago

**DR1939**

I did a two-week course in India several years ago. We shared a dining room with their exchange students. We ate primarily South Indian food which is very hot. I loved it, but some did not. I also did a two-week visit to a Warsaw Agricultural University but we were fed in the University President's dining room for lunch, very elegant, and the guest house dining room with other visiting scholars for breakfast and lunch--very different from the Indian experience and from yours.
2867 days ago

**HELEN_BRU**

What an adventure you are having.
2867 days ago

**ONEKIDSMOM**

I would be driving myself nuts with speculating over "why"? And trying to learn enough to ask the surly server... though if he truly is like the Soup dude, he would not answer. Hmmm!

Amused for the day!
2867 days ago

**SYLPHINPROGRESS**

Reminds me of the early years of Saturday Night Live: "Cheeseburger, cheeseburger."
2867 days ago

**RASPBERRY56**

I "hate" it when that happens!
2867 days ago

**MARYJEANSL**

It sounds like you're mostly settling in well. What a hoot about the "no soup for you" server. Mind you, I wouldn't have thought it was funny if it had been happening to me. But from afar, it's pretty funny. Thanks for sharing all your adventures with SP!

2867 days ago

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