

At the Restaurant: Phrases for servers



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Vocabulary: server, waiter, waitress, host, hostess, menu, reservation, our house, signature dish, substitute, check appetizer, soup of the day, daily special, happy hour, with a side, on the side, hold the, entrée

Seating the guests:

Good evening.....	We'll have a table ready for you soon.
Do you have a reservation?	Would you follow me, please?
How many in your party?	Your waiter will be with you soon.

Taking the order

Here are the menus, can I get you something to drink to start? Hot or Ice Tea?
 Can I bring you the wine menu?/Our house red wine is Mission Hill. It's a fruity wine.
 Our soup of the day is Manhattan clam chowder. It's a rich and creamy soup.
 The chef's special tonight is chicken served on a bed of steamed rice with veggies.
 Can I take your order?/ Have you decided what you will be having?
 Are you paying together or would you like separate checks?
 Would you like to order any appetizers? We have crunchy onion rings with a spicy dip.
 Our Happy Hour two-for-one appetizer special starts at 5:00 pm.
 I'm sorry but we've run out of the lamb tonight.
 Can I recommend the roast beef instead? It's very tender.
 How would you like your steak? (rare, medium, well done)
 That entrée comes with your choice of salad, soup or fries. (comes with/includes)
 What kind of dressing would you like on your salad? Ranch, Italian or our signature house dressing?
 Would you like your sandwich on white, brown, sourdough or multigrain?
 We have a mouth-watering dessert called Death by Chocolate. Would you like to try it?
 Our spiced pumpkin chai latte is our special beverage this month.



Checking for customer satisfaction

Is everything all right?	I'm sorry. I'll take this back to the kitchen.
Do you need anything?	I'm sorry. I'll have the chef heat this up.
How is everything?	I'm sorry. I'll bring you another one right away.

Finishing the meal

Will that be everything?	I'll bring you your bill, you can pay at the table.
Can I take your plate ?	Thank you, please pay at the desk as you go out.
Did you enjoy your meal?	Thank you for coming, hope to see you again.

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Being seated

We have a reservation for 7:00 pm.

Table for four, please.

Could we get a table farther from the kitchen, please?

May we sit at this table?

Are you still serving breakfast?

Do you have vegetarian dishes?

Placing the order

Just some water to start, please.

Have you got wine by the glass?

I'd prefer white wine.

Please bring us another beer.

We're not ready to order yet.

Could we get more bread rolls?

We don't need any bread rolls, thanks.

Is there very much garlic in your minestrone soup?

I've never eaten here before.

What do you recommend?

Do you have any specials?

Is the chicken grilled or fried?

Could I have salad instead of fries with my chicken?

I'd like my salad with the dressing on the side, please.

I'll have the steak. Medium rare, please.



I'll have the same. But make mine well done, please.

I'll have the double cheeseburger but please, no pickles. And hold the mustard.

How spicy is your chicken curry? Can I get it mild?

Can I have the Caesar salad instead of the house salad? How much more will that be?

Does the meal include soup or is that extra?

I'd like some more gravy for my turkey, please.

I'll have the number 5 breakfast but I don't want any bacon. Do you have any turkey sausages?

Can you bring me some ketchup, please.

That's all, thank you.

Can we see the dessert menu?

Is the toffee pudding very sticky? Is it very rich?

Dealing with problems/ giving praise

We've been waiting a long time to place our order.

Is our meal on its way?

I need a fork, please. And more napkins.

Everything is fine, thank you. Just delicious.

This food's cold/ this is too salty / too chewy.

This doesn't taste right. I want to send this back.

Finishing the meal

Could we have our bill, please?

Could we have the check, please?

I didn't finish my steak. Could I get a doggy bag?

I think there's a mistake on our bill. We didn't order any special coffees.

Do we pay you or pay on the way out?

I don't have cash for a tip, so I'll put it on my card.



Look up items on your menu to fill in the phrases below.

Name: _____

Use the right phrase for count and non-count foods.

Ex. I'm sorry, we've run out of **chicken** tonight. Not: I'm sorry, we've run out of **chickens** tonight.

That's two orders of _____, both with soup. Anything else?

The _____ comes with your choice of salad, soup or fries.

Could you please bring me some _____.

I need a _____, please. And more _____.

Excuse me, I thought my hamburger was supposed to come with _____.

Is there a lot of _____ in the stew?

I would like lots of _____ on my hamburger. Is there an extra charge for that?

Describe the restaurant food using the food adjectives we've studied.

For example. "My French fries are too greasy."

Our (food) _____ is famous. It's really _____. Would you like to try it?

Excuse me, my soup is too _____. I'd like to send it back.

I'm glad I tried the (food) _____. It's very _____.

This dessert is _____ but I think it's too _____.

I thought the fish would be bland, but with the _____ sauce, it's delicious.