

ENGLISH

Unit 15: Going to a Restaurant



English for Beginners with

THE INSPIRE ACADEMY



Common Types of Restaurants



Mediterranean



Italian



Chinese



American



Mexican



BBQ



Sushi/Japanese



French

Deciding Where to Go

From all the possible options for restaurants it can be tricky to decide where to go. In the previous page there are many options listed but here are a few phrases to help you communicate where you would, or would not, like to go:

- "I'd suggest we go to a Mediterranean restaurant."
- "I am really craving Chinese food right now, let's get that."
- "I had Italian food yesterday, can we go somewhere else?"

Making a Reservation

When going out to fast food you don't need to make a reservation. However if you are planning a special night with friends or family at a nice restaurant it is always a good idea to make a reservation. Here are some helpful phrases to do so:

- "Hi, I would like to make a reservation for 5 please."
- "Could I make a reservation for four for this Friday the 22nd at 7pm?"
- "Do you have any availability tonight on such short notice? I would like to reserve a table for three."

How to Order

Ordering can be difficult as a beginner in a new language. Here are some phrases that you can always use when ordering to make the process a little easier:

- "I would like the burger with fries please."
- "May I have the steak tartare with a salad on the side?"
- "I think I'll have the chicken with mashed potatoes."
- Do you have any vegetarian or vegan options available?

Polite Phrases

Often times, if you are eating at a sit-down restaurant the waiter will ask you if you are enjoying your meal.

Here are some polite phrases you can respond with:

- "Oh yes it is very good, thank you for asking."
- "This chicken is delicious, compliments to the chef."
- "Yes definitely, this pizza is so tasty!"
- (If the meal is really good) "This "name any food" is delectable"

Example Conversation

Now let's put this all together into one conversation. Marco and his friend Sylvia have decided to go to a French restaurant and they made a reservation earlier that day.

Host - "Hi, how may we help you?"

Sylvia - "We made a reservation for two, under the name "Sylvia"."

Host - "Ah yes I see it here, follow me this way to your table"

Host - "Your waiter will be right with you, would you like any drinks to start?"

Marco - "We will start with a pitcher of water please."

Host - "Ok I will bring that right over."

Marco - "Thank you"

Waiter - "Hello, have you decided what you would like to order this evening?"

Sylvia - "Yes, I'll have the duck confit with fries and a side of mayonnaise."

Marco - "And I'll have the boeuf bourguignon, could we also get two glasses of your favorite red wine please?"

Waiter - "Of course, I will be with you again with your food shortly"

EXERCISE

Please Respond to the following questions with short sentences:



1.) Hello, yes, how many will the reservation be for and at what time?

2.) Do you still make your tasty puff pastries?

3.) I would like the Chicken, but is it possible to have a salad instead of fries?

4.) Would you like anything else?

5.) Today we have three specials, would you like to hear them?

6.) Have you already decided on what you would like to have?

7.) We do not have any space available for that time, would like like to make your reservation for a later hour?

FRIEND EXERCISE

For this friend exercise you and your friend must take turns being a waiter and a customer.

Whichever role you are you must write out 4 phrases that correspond to your role.

Then you switch papers and try to respond to the phrases that your friend used.

You can also repeat this exercise afterwards in conversation if you would like.

Have fun!



