

# Ordering at a Restaurant

*In this lesson, you will learn how to order food at a restaurant. You'll also learn vocabulary for main courses and sides that you will find on a typical menu in an English-speaking country. You may get hungry!*

## Pre-Reading

### A. Warm-Up Questions

1. What type of restaurants do you like to eat at?
2. Do you prefer to eat salad or cooked vegetables?
3. What type of dessert do you like to order at a restaurant?



### B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. order ( <i>verb</i> ) | a) a salad with romaine lettuce, croutons, bacon, and an egg dressing                              |
| _____ 2. take your time        | b) a thick slice of beef   |
| _____ 3. steak                 | c) to tell a server what you want to eat or drink  |
| _____ 4. potato                | d) a starchy vegetable with a peel (may be baked, mashed, boiled, or fried)                        |
| _____ 5. rice                  | e) beaten into a smooth mixture  |
| _____ 6. mashed                | f) don't rush, do something as slowly as necessary   |
| _____ 7. Caesar salad          | g) a bun, a round piece of baked bread   |
| _____ 8. house salad           | h) a chilled, creamy dessert made with whipped cream and egg                                       |
| _____ 9. roll                  | i) fork, knife, spoon  |
| _____ 10. mousse               | j) a starchy small cereal grain that is boiled   |
| _____ 11. cutlery              | k) a basic salad with greens and fresh vegetables, usually served with an oil and vinegar dressing |

## Dialogue Reading

Read the dialogue with your partner a few times. Take turns being each character. Practice your intonation and pronunciation. Circle any new words or phrases that you need to practice.

Waiter: Good evening. **Can I take your order?**

Customer: **Could you give me a few more minutes?**

Waiter: **Certainly. Take your time.**

*(a few minutes later)*

Are you ready to order now?

Customer: Yes. **I'd like an eight-ounce steak, please.**

Waiter: Would you like potatoes or rice with your steak?

Customer: What kind of potatoes do you have?

Waiter: We have baked, mashed, or French fries.

Customer: **I'll have French fries, please.**

Waiter: **And how would you like your steak done?**

Customer: **Medium-rare, please.**

Waiter: **Would you like anything to start?**

Customer: I'll have a salad, please.

Waiter: We have Greek, Italian, and Caesar salad, **as well as** a house salad.

Customer: I'll have the house salad **with oil and vinegar dressing.**

Waiter: **Would you like a beverage?**

Customer: **I'll have a large Diet Coke.**

Waiter: And would you like anything for dessert?

Customer: **What do you suggest?**

Waiter: **The apple pie is my favorite.**

Customer: Okay. **I'll try that.**

Waiter: I'll put your order in and **be right back with some hot rolls and butter.**

Customer: Thank you.

## Practice

Work with your partner. Role-play the dialogue on page 2, substituting the different expressions below. Then switch roles.

1. **Can I take your order?**

- Would you like to order now?
- Are you ready to order now?
- Have you had time to look at the menu yet?

2. **Could you give me a few more minutes?**

- Can I have a few more minutes, please?
- I'd like a few more minutes.
- I'm not quite ready. I need a few more minutes.

3. **Certainly. Take your time.**

- Of course. No rush.
- Sure. I'll come back in a few minutes.

4. **I'd like an eight-ounce steak, please.**

- I'll have a 12-ounce steak, please.
- Can I please have the rack of lamb?
- Can I have the pork roast?
- I'd like the roast beef, please.
- Could I have the fried chicken?
- Can I have the grilled salmon, please?

5. **I'll have French fries, please.**

- I'd like fries with that.
- I'll get the fries.

6. **And how would you like your steak done?**

- How would you like your steak cooked?
- How do you prefer your steak?

7. **Medium-rare, please.**

- rare
- medium
- medium-well
- well-done

8. **Would you like anything to start?**

- Would you like anything to begin with?
- Would you like an appetizer?
- How about a soup or salad to start?

9. We have a Greek, Italian, and Caesar salad, **as well as** a house salad.

- in addition to

10. I'll have the house salad **with oil and vinegar dressing.**

- with Thousand Island dressing
- with Italian dressing
- with French dressing
- with blue cheese dressing

11. **Would you like a beverage?**

- Would you like anything to drink?
- Will there be anything to drink?

12. **I'll have a large Diet Coke.**

- I'll have a cup of coffee.
- Just water, please.

13. **What do you suggest?**

- What do you recommend?
- What's good?
- Any suggestions?

14. **The apple pie is my favorite.**

- The chocolate mousse is delicious.
- The lemon cheesecake is wonderful.
- The strawberry tart is fantastic.

15. **I'll try that.**

- I'd like that.
- I'll order that.
- I'll take that.

16. **...be right back with some hot rolls and butter.**

- ...be back in a minute with your water.
- ...be back right away with your cutlery and napkins.

## Listening Practice

Listen to the recording of the dialogue from page 2. Fill in the missing words as you listen. Listen again. Now look back at page 2 and check your work. Did you fill in the correct words? Did you spell everything correctly?

Waiter:	Good evening. Can I take your order?
Customer:	Could you give me a few more minutes?
Waiter:	_____. Take your time. (a few minutes later) Are you ready to order now?
Customer:	Yes. I'd like an eight-ounce _____, please.
Waiter:	Would you like potatoes or _____ with your steak?
Customer:	What kind of potatoes do you have?
Waiter:	We have baked, _____, or French fries.
Customer:	I'll have French fries, please.
Waiter:	And how would you like your steak _____?
Customer:	Medium-rare, please.
Waiter:	Would you like anything to start?
Customer:	I'll have a salad, please.
Waiter:	We have Greek, Italian, and _____ salad, as well as a house salad.
Customer:	I'll have the house salad with oil and vinegar dressing.
Waiter:	Would you like a _____?
Customer:	I'll have a large Diet Coke.
Waiter:	And would you like anything for dessert?
Customer:	What do you _____?
Waiter:	The apple pie is my favorite.
Customer:	Okay. I'll try that.
Waiter:	I'll put your order in and be right back with some hot _____ and butter.
Customer:	Thank you.

## Vocabulary Building

Work with your partner. Fill in the chart below with as many food items as you can think of.

Appetizer (First Course)	Entrée (Main Course)	Side Dish	Dessert	Beverage
salad	steak	French fries	pie	Coke

Write a dialogue with a partner using phrases from page 3. One of you will be a waiter and one of you will be a customer. Practice and present the dialogue to your class.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

## Review

### Task 1

#### LISTEN & ANSWER

Listen to the conversation and answer the questions.  
Your teacher will tell you if you have to write or say the answers.

1. What happens in this restaurant scene?

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2. What type of meat does the man order, and how does he want it cooked?

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3. What potato options are available as a side?

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4. What does the man order for his appetizer?

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5. What does the waiter suggest for dessert?

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6. What is the server going to do after placing the order?

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## Review cont.

### Task 2

#### QUESTION FORMATION

#### A. Questions

Write five questions a restaurant server might ask you.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Answers

Write five possible answers to your questions.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### Task 3

#### ROLE-PLAY

Find a partner. Imagine that you are the server and your partner is the customer. Use your questions to do a role-play for your teacher.