

Restaurants

Let's get started...

When was the last time you went to a restaurant? What did you eat? How many times have you been to this restaurant? Would you recommend it to other people?

Background:

Today, people can choose from many different kinds of restaurants. You can pick up a sandwich to go or eat at a fancy restaurant. You can even have people deliver food to your house! Some popular restaurants have thousands of locations around the world, while other, smaller restaurants have only one location. Eating at restaurants allows you to sample food from all over the world, without ever leaving your city! But be careful – if you go to a popular restaurant you should make a reservation, or you might have to wait before a table is available!



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

Imagine you are going to a restaurant for dinner tomorrow night.

Where will you go?

Why will you go there?

What will you do when you enter the restaurant?

Who will order the food?

What will you say to the waitress/waiter?

Will you order a drink, appetizer, main dish, side dish, and/or dessert?

Who will pay for the meal?

How much tip will you leave?

Share your partner's answers with the group.



Discussion Questions:

What are some reasons that people go to restaurants?

In your native country, is it common or popular for people to go to restaurants? How often do people go to restaurants?

Do you like to go to the same restaurant, or try new restaurants each time?

When you go to a restaurant for the first time, how do you decide what to order?

How are restaurants in your native country different from restaurants in America?

Do you give the waiter/waitress a tip in your native country?

What do you think about paying a tip in America? Do you give a tip if the service is poor? How do you decide how much of a tip to give?

Which meal do you like to eat at a restaurant: breakfast, lunch, or dinner?

In America, most people go to a restaurant with someone else. Is this different from in your native country? Do you ever go to restaurants by yourself? What do you think when you see a person eating at a restaurant alone?

Which is more important when you go to a restaurant: the service or the atmosphere? unique dishes or a big variety? price or quality of food?

What would you do if your food had a hair in it? What would you do if you received bad service?

In America, some restaurants give free refills and some restaurants charge for refills. In your native country, do you have to pay for drink refills?

How many different kinds of restaurants have you been to: Thai, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Middle Eastern, French, Mexican, Vietnamese, Russian, Italian, Indian, etc?

If you could try one new food, what would you try? Why?

New words and Idioms:

recommend, deliver, location, sample, reservation, waiter/waitress, appetizer, main dish, side dish, tip, service, atmosphere, unique, variety, quality, refills, charge