

1.17

In a restaurant 2

Business Builder
Teacher Resource Series

Teacher's Notes

AIM

To practise a series of interactions in a restaurant such as preparing to order, explaining dishes, making 'small talk', leaving and paying.

TIME

40–50 minutes

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student in the class.

Each table will need a simple menu (see stage 3). If students have done worksheet 1.11 the dishes in section B can be used, otherwise students think of their own dishes as indicated below. Alternatively, use a real menu, a menu from a coursebook or a menu you have made.

Be prepared to arrange the room like a restaurant at stage 3. Consider playing the role of the waiter yourself. You can make language notes as you go round the tables, take orders, ask students if they are enjoying their meal, handle complaints etc.

PROCEDURE

- 1 Write up on the board *In a restaurant* and ask students how often they entertain visitors and clients, and what they talk about. Then write up the three stages of the meal referred to on the worksheet. For each stage, elicit and write up a few phrases (see worksheet).
- 2 Give out a copy of the worksheet to every student and refer to the instructions at the top. Appoint a waiter, unless you are going to be the waiter yourself.
- 3 Rearrange the room like a restaurant with small groups of students sitting around tables. Ask the students to prepare a menu for each table: each table takes one piece of blank paper and writes *Starters*, *Main Course* and *Dessert* as sections. Then each student on that table contributes one item to each section (they just write the name of the dish). Note that every table will have a different menu. If a student is acting as waiter, ask them to look at their phrases at the bottom of the sheet while the other students are doing the menu preparation. They can think of a few more phrases.

- 4 Ask students to read through the points on the worksheet silently and to imagine what they will say for each one. Set a time limit of 2 minutes for this.
- 5 Explain to the students that you want them to have a natural conversation. They can leave the worksheet on the table to help them, but they don't have to follow the same points or use the same phrases. Set a time limit of 20 minutes. Ask the students to go outside the classroom and wait in their groups for the waiter to show them to their tables. Start the activity, circulate and make a note of good/bad language use.
- 6 Hold a short feedback slot.

CULTURAL HINTS

- ▼ In America, northern Europe, Japan and south-east Asia business may be discussed at lunch toward the end of the meal, if the host introduces it. At dinner business is almost never discussed.
- ▼ In Latin American countries, southern Europe and the Middle East business is rarely discussed in a restaurant, even at lunch.