



### اصطلاحات روزمره

ORDERING AT A

#### RESTAURANT

#### S P E A K ENGLISH AROUND T O W N

Conduct everyday conversations with confidence!

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### اصطلاحات روز مره آمریکایی

#### englishnerd.club/seat

#### **ORDERING AT A RESTAURANT**

Tanya and John go to Carmen's Bistro for dinner. It's Saturday night and the place is packed! Finally, Kevin, their waiter, comes to take their order.

Tanya: I hope the waiter comes soon. I'm starving! John: Me too! Tanya: Why don't we flag him down? John: Waiter, waiter!

Kevin: I'll be right with you! ... Sorry for the hold up. We're packed to the rafters tonight. John: We noticed! Kevin: I'm Kevin, and I'll be your server tonight. Can I start you off with some drinks?

John: I'd like the Sam Adams Summer Ale. Tanya: Make it two. Kevin: And did you decide on some appetizers?

John: We're going to skip the appetizers tonight. What do you recommend for a main course? Kevin: We're known for our seafood. The salmon with black bean sauce is our most popular dish.

### Tanya: Okay, I'll try that. Kevin: Excellent choice. And for you, sir?

John: I'm having trouble deciding. I'm in the mood for steak, but I know you pride yourselves on your seafood. Kevin: How about trying the surf and turf? That way, you get the best of both worlds!

John: Okay, let's go with that.

Kevin: I'll be right back with your drinks. They're on the house because you had to wait so long to order.

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#### John: Me too!

### Tanya: Why don't we flag him down? John: Waiter, waiter!

### I'm starving = I'm very hungry

### When we asked Jim why he ordered two steaks, he said, "I'm starving."

Tanya: I hope the waiter comes soon. I'm starving!

#### John: Me too!

### Tanya: Why don't we flag him down? John: Waiter, waiter!

flag down (the waiter/waitress) =
 get the attention of the
 waiter/waitress

You want another glass of wine? Let's flag down the waitress.

Tanya: I hope the waiter comes soon. I'm starving!

John: Me too!

Tanya: Why don't we flag him down? John: Waiter, waiter!

Why don't we go out for pizza?

- Why don't I drive you to the airport on Friday?
- Why don't we get out to dinner on Saturday?

Why don't you call them?

Kevin: I'll be right with you! ... Sorry for the hold up. We're packed to the rafters tonight. John: We noticed! Kevin: I'm Kevin, and I'll be your server tonight. Can I start you off with some drinks?

### I'll be right with you = I'm coming in a minute

"I'll be right with you," said the waitress when she saw me waving to her.

Kevin: I'll be right with you! ... Sorry for the hold up. We're packed to the rafters tonight. John: We noticed! Kevin: I'm Kevin, and I'll be your server tonight. Can I start you off with some drinks?

### hold up = delay; long wait

## We ordered 20 minutes ago. What's causing the hold up?

Kevin: I'll be right with you! ... Sorry for the hold up. We're packed to the rafters tonight. John: We noticed! Kevin: I'm Kevin, and I'll be your server tonight. Can I start you off with some drinks?

### packed to the rafters = really crowded

Beth's Bistro is always packed to the rafters on Saturday nights. If we want to go there, we'd better make reservations.

Kevin: I'll be right with you! ... Sorry for the hold up. We're packed to the rafters tonight. John: We noticed! Kevin: I'm Kevin, and I'll be your server tonight. Can I start you off with some drinks?

### Can I start you off with sth = Would you like to start your meal with sth

### Welcome to Amici's. Can I start you off with some drinks?

John: I'd like the Sam Adams Summer Ale.

Tanya: Make it two.

Kevin: And did you decide on some appetizers?

### make it two = I'll have one too; I'll have the same thing

### I'll take a cappuccino.

#### Make it two.

John: I'd like the Sam Adams Summer Ale.

Tanya: Make it two.

Kevin: And did you decide on some appetizers?

### decide on = choose

### "Did you decide on a main course yet?" asked the waitress.

John: We're going to skip the appetizers tonight. What do you recommend for a main course? Kevin: We're known for our seafood. The salmon with black bean sauce is our most popular dish.

### skip the appetizers = not order appetizers

## We're not that hungry, so we're going to skip the appetizers?

John: We're going to skip the appetizers tonight. What do you recommend for a main course? Kevin: We're known for our seafood. The salmon with black bean sauce is our most popular dish.

# known for = famous for; having a reputation for

## Chicago is known for its delicious pizza.

John: We're going to skip the appetizers tonight. What do you recommend for a main course? Kevin: We're known for our seafood. The salmon with black bean sauce is our most popular dish.

Tanya: Okay, I'll try that. Kevin: Excellent choice. And for you, sir?

John: I'm having trouble deciding. I'm in the mood for steak, but I know you pride yourselves on your seafood.

# in the mood for = want; have an appetite for

### Let's go to a seafood restaurant. I'm in the mood for fish.

Tanya: Okay, I'll try that. Kevin: Excellent choice. And for you, sir?

John: I'm having trouble deciding. I'm in the mood for steak, but I know you pride yourselves on your seafood.

## pride yourselves on = be known for

# San Francisco prides itself on its fine restaurants.

- John: Okay, let's go with that.
- Kevin: I'll be right back with your drinks. They're on the house because you had to wait so long to order.

surf and turf = a meal containing
both meat and seafood

The waiter said, "Tonight, our special is the surf and turf. It comes with a lobster tail and a New York strip steak.

John: Okay, let's go with that.

Kevin: I'll be right back with your drinks. They're on the house because you had to wait so long to order.

## How about verb + ing

- How about going sailing this weekend?
- How about inviting the Smiths over for a barbeque?
- How about studying some French before our trip to Paris?

John: Okay, let's go with that.

Kevin: I'll be right back with your drinks. They're on the house because you had to wait so long to order. the best of both worlds = the advantages of two things

Waitressing in the evenings gives Sue the best of both worlds:

she can attend classes during the day and still earn money.

- John: Okay, let's go with that.
- Kevin: I'll be right back with your drinks. They're on the house because you had to wait so long to order.

## Let's go with = I'll take

## You recommend the Chardonnay? Okay, let's go with that.

## let's + verb

Let's take a walk on the beach.

- Let's work on the project tomorrow. Let's wait and see how the weather is before making our plans.
- Let's get tickets to a Broadway play.

- John: Okay, let's go with that.
- Kevin: I'll be right back with your drinks. They're on the house because you had to wait so long to order.

# on the house = free; paid for by the restaurant

# The waitress offered us after-dinner drinks on the house.

You are a waiter (or waitress) at Anita's Restaurant. Choose the appropriate replies to your customers (remember: be polite — you like your job and want to keep it!):

1) Customer: "You guys are packed to the rafters tonight."

Your reply:

a) "Yes, there's plenty of seating available."

b) "Yes, we can seat you up in the rafters if you want."

c) "Yes, I'm afraid there's going to be a 30 minute wait for a table."

2) Customer: "We've been waiting forever for you to come and take our order!"

Your reply:

a) "Sorry about that. Let me get you some drinks on the house."

b) "You still haven't decided? I'll come back in a few minutes."

c) "Sorry. I was busy helping everybody who came in after you."

3) Customer: "We're going to skip the appetizers tonight."

Your reply:

a) "The calamari is our best appetizer."

b) "Okay, have you decided on a main course?"

c) "Okay, should I just bring the dessert menus?"

4) Customer: "I hope your portions are big. I'm starving!"

Your reply:

a) "Then I suggest our house salad. It's very light."

- b) "I recommend just getting an appetizer then."
- c) "I suggest the lasagna. It's a very large serving."

5) Customer: "What do you suggest? I'm in the mood for fish."

Your reply:

a) "Try the filet mignon. It's our best steak."

- b) "The stuffed chicken special is excellent."
- c) "Try the blackened tuna. It's delicious."

6) Customer: "I hear you pride yourselves on your steak."

Your reply:

- a) "Yes, we're very proud of our steak."
- b) "Yes, we do have steak on the menu."
- c) "Yes, our customers are proud to order our steak."

7) Customer: "I can't decide between the fish and the steak."

### Your reply:

a) "Then I suggest you spend more time thinking about it."

b) "Then I suggest you try our vegetarian special."

c) "Then I suggest the surf and turf."

8) Customer: "I've been trying to flag you down for the past 10 minutes. Didn't you see me waving?"

### Your reply:

a) "Yes, I saw you but I thought you were just saying hello."
b) "No, I'm sorry I didn't notice. It's very crowded here tonight."
c) "No, but I saw you raising your hand."

9) Customer: "Why did you bring us both glasses of red wine? My wife asked for white wine."

Your reply:

- a) "I thought she said, 'make it two' when you asked for a glass of white wine."
- b) "I thought she said, 'make it two' when you asked for a glass of red wine."
- c) "I thought you said, 'a glass of red wine for me and a glass of white wine for her.""

10) Customer: "We've been waiting 45 minutes for our meals. What's the hold up?"

#### Your reply:

a) "Sorry. Your meals will be right out."

- b) "There's no hold up. Everything is fine."
- c) "You got to the restaurant late."

Turn the following phrases into suggestions using: why don't we / how about / let's:

Example: watch a Woody Allen movie (why don't we)

Answer: Why don't we watch a Woody Allen movie?

1) eat lunch at the mall (let's)

 look for a birthday present for Marina (why don't we)

 get some burritos for dinner (how about)

 visit the Picasso exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum (let's)

5) go to Martha's Vineyard in July (why don't we)

6) get a subscription to New York magazine (let's)

 show me how to use Skype (how about)

 see a performance at Carnegie Hall (why don't we)

 order Korean food for dinner (why don't we)

 go to Italy this summer (let's)

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## Review + audio + text

https://www.instagram.com/englishnerd.club



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