UNIT 3

Taking a Beverage Order

Good evening. My name's Mary. I'll be serving your table this evening.

Here's our menu, sir.

Would you like to order a drink before dinner?

Mary, the waitress for table 14, introduced herself.

She gave each guest the à la carte menu.

She asked if the guests wanted an aperitif.

Certainly, madam. And for you, madam?

That's one gin and tonic, one dry sherry, and two beers.

Yes, that's right.

Order for table 14.

A dry sherry, please.

She took their orders in a clockwise direction...

...and wrote the details down on the beverage order form.

Mary repeated the whole order to make sure it was correct.

She gave one copy of the order to the bartender.

Your gin and tonic, madam.

When the drinks were ready, Mary arranged them on a tray. She also put some coasters and stirrers on the tray.

She took the drinks to the table, and served the lady on the right first.

Mary placed the lady's drink on a coaster, near the wine glass.

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Key Vocabulary

VERBS
arrange
give
introduce
place
put
repeat
serve
take [an order]

NOUNS
à la carte
aperitif
bartender
beverage
coaster
drink

gin
host
menu
order
sherry
stirrer
tonic
waitress

OTHERS
anti-clockwise
clockwise
correct
don't use
don't use

drink

each
each

each
each

each
each

For Special Attention

- beverage is the general term for any type of drink.
- aperitif = French word used in English meaning an alcoholic drink before meals
- à la carte menu = menu where items are priced separately. The guest may pick and choose any item from this menu. [à la carte is a French term.]
- clockwise = move in the same direction as the hands of a clock
- anti-clockwise = the opposite direction to the above
- coaster = a small mat that is put under a glass to protect the table
- host/hostess = the person who invites others to a function or meal

More Expressions

Picture

1 "I'm your waitress this evening."

2 "This is our à la carte menu, sir."

3 "May I take your drinks order now?"

4 "What about you, madam?"

5 "I'll repeat your order – that's one gin tonic... etc."

6 "A gin and tonic for you, madam."
Clearing Unused Place Settings

There were two extra place settings or covers on table 14.

Holding an empty tray in her left hand, Mary picked up each item of the unused settings...

...and put it on her tray.

I'll be back shortly to take your order.

She informed the guests that she would be back soon to take their food order.

Mary took the unused cutlery and crockery to the waiter's station.

She put each item back in its correct place at the waiter's station.

A Place Setting

- napkin
- dessert spoon and fork
- water glass
- wine glass
- soup spoon
- fish knife
- fish fork
- butter knife
- placemat
- table fork
- side plate
- station
- tray
- cutlery
- flatware
- silverware
- food order
- item

Key Vocabulary

VERBS
- hold
- inform
- pick [up]
- put [back]
- set
- take [an order]
- take [away]

OTHERS
- correct
- empty
- extra
- unused

For Special Attention

- set a table = arrange knives, forks etc. on the table for a meal
- a set = a group of similar things e.g. cutlery, a tea set
- place settings = a restaurant table is set according to the number of places [chairs] there are at the table.
- unused = not in use
- extra = more than needed
- The waiter's station is an area in the restaurant where items needed at the table are kept.
- a food order = the food items that guests would like to have
- cutlery = knives, forks, and spoons used for eating and serving food. [US] flatware, silverware.
- crockery = plates, cups, dishes etc. made from clay
UNIT 3 Exercises

1. Give one word to describe each group of items pictured below.

1. __________________________ 2. __________________________ 3. __________________________

4. __________________________ 5. __________________________ 6. __________________________

2. Find a word in the box that is opposite in meaning to the underlined words in the sentences below. Take care! There are more words in the box than you need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>take away</th>
<th>give</th>
<th>inform</th>
<th>extra</th>
<th>correct</th>
<th>empty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>picked up</td>
<td>clockwise</td>
<td>arrange</td>
<td>unused</td>
<td>serve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

e.g. There were not enough chairs at that table.

1. They passed the notice around the table in an anti-clockwise direction.
2. The waiters bring the meals to the table.
3. It was hard to find the books because they were in the wrong place.
4. The waitress put down the tray of cutlery before she set the table.
5. On a busy night all the trays are in use by the waiters.
6. During the weekend the restaurant is usually full.

3. Name the object or person in the pictures below.

1. __________________________ 2. __________________________ 3. __________________________

4. __________________________ 5. __________________________ 6. __________________________

7. __________________________ 8. __________________________
4. Match the terms on the left with the statements on the right.

1. Introducing yourself.  [ f ]
2. Repeating an order.  [ ]
3. Giving out the menu.  [ ]
4. Asking the guests if they want a drink.  [ ]
5. Informing the guests about your action.  [ ]
6. Giving the drinks order to the bar.  [ ]

   a. “Would you like to order an aperitif?”
   b. “Order for table 14.”
   c. “I’ll be back to take your order.”
   d. “This is our à la carte menu.”
   e. “That’s one sherry and three gins.”
   f. “My name is Sarah.”

5. What is the waiter saying in these pictures? Complete the dialogue below.

   1. Waiter: 

   Guest: Good evening.

   2. Waiter: 

   Guest: Thank you.

   3. Waiter: 


   Waiter: 

   5. Waiter: 

   Guest: I’ll have a gin and tonic, please.

   6. Waiter: 

   Guest: That’s right.

6. Role-play the above dialogue with a partner.