Reading Practice

Read the text. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

a) The writer had eaten at The Fig Tree a few weeks ago. _____

b) Mariella is a waitress in the restaurant. _____

c) Before he bought The Fig Tree, Martin worked at another restaurant. _____

d) The writer was disappointed because the food was too expensive. _____

e) Not many local people go to The Fig Tree. _____

I had heard a lot about the new wonder-chef at my local restaurant, The Fig Tree, but I'd never had the chance to sample the food. But since owner/chef Martin Capp won his first Great Food Award a few weeks ago, I felt I simply had to go and see for myself what all the fuss was about, especially since I live so close.

We went there on a busy Saturday night. As well as being a restaurant, this is first and foremost the social focal point of our whole town, so the bar was full of locals enjoying a drink. It's a family business, and Capp's wife, Mariella, works as the hostess. We were greeted with warmth and enthusiasm by her and her staff, although the place was crowded and busy.

The Capps took over this place six years ago, and have built up a thriving business and a reputation based on great value, high quality food, and a comfortable and relaxed setting. Before coming here, Martin worked alongside famous chef Julian Gray in the prestigious "Blue House" establishment, so we had high expectations of our orders from the impressive menu as we took our seats in the comfortable dining room.

And we were not disappointed. The goose-liver appetizer was just salty enough, without being too rich. The fish main course tasted like it was fresh off the boat, cooked to perfection, with a sorrel sauce that melted in the mouth. And I've had many good desserts in my time, but I think this was the best chocolate mousse I've ever had. And the check came to less than $50 for the two of us.

Our neighbor, Stan Dunn, was there having dinner at the table next to us. "I've been coming here for twenty years, and now there are more people here in one night than there used to be in a week under the old owners," he said. At a time when many restaurants are struggling to stay open, The Fig Tree is more popular than ever. I guess the Capps have discovered the recipe for success.

LIVEWORKSHEETS