Lesson 31: Selecting a Restaurant

WORDS TO LEARN

- appeal
- compromise
- daringly
- delicious
- familiar
- guide
- majority
- mix
- rely
- secure
- subjective
- suggestion

Study the following definitions and examples.

1. **appeal** n., the ability to attract
   a. A restaurant with good food and reasonable prices has a lot of appeal.
   b. The pleasing decor and friendly waiters are what give that restaurant its appeal.
2. **compromise** n., a settlement of differences; v., to settle differences
   a. The couple made a compromise and ordered food to take out.
   b. John doesn't like sweet dishes so I compromised by adding just a small amount of sugar.
3. **daringly** adv., bravely
   a. We daringly ordered the raw squid.
   b. Bob daringly asked to see the menu in French.
4. **delicious** adj., tasty; good to eat
   a. This restaurant is famous for its delicious soups.
   b. The fish stew wasn't as delicious as we had expected it to be.
5. **familiar** adj., often encountered or seen; common
   a. It's nice to see some familiar items on the menu.
   b. The chef blends the familiar tastes with the unusual.
6. **guide** n., one who leads, directs, or gives advice; a guidebook
   a. The guide led our tour group to a small restaurant only known to the locals.
   b. I don't know where to go, so why don't we consult the guide.
7. **majority** n., the greater number or part
   a. The majority of the group wanted to try the new Chinese restaurant.
   b. Claude was in the majority, so he was very pleased with the decision.
8. **mix** v., to combine or blend into one mass; n., a combination
   a. The daring chef mixed two uncommon ingredients.
   b. The mix of bright colors on the plate was very pleasing.
9. **rely** v., to have confidence in; to depend on
   a. You can rely on that website to give accurate restaurant reviews.
   b. I seldom rely on restaurant reviews when choosing a restaurant.
10. **secure** v., to get possession of; to obtain
    a. Despite the popularity of the restaurant, Max was able to secure reservations for this evening.
    b. The hostess secured us another chair, so we could eat together.
11. **subjective** adj., particular to a given person; highly personal; not objective
    a. Food preferences are subjective and not everyone agrees on what tastes good.
    b. The reviews on this website are highly subjective but fun to read.
12. **suggestion** n., a proposal; advice
    a. Can I make a suggestion about what to order?
    b. We followed the waiter's suggestion and ordered one of the specials.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORD FAMILIES

verb	appeal	On a beautiful spring day, a sidewalk café appeals to many people.
noun	appeal	That restaurant has been around for a long time but it hasn't lost its appeal.
adjective	appealing	An ice-cold drink seems very appealing on a hot day.

verb	dare	I prefer familiar things and don't usually dare to try new restaurants.
adjective	daring	Kobi had more daring tastes than the rest of his family.
adverb	daringly	Jane daringly refused a fork and attempted to eat her entire meal with chopsticks.

noun	deliciousness	The deliciousness of the desserts is hard to resist.
adjective	delicious	All the comments on that blog agree that this restaurant serves the most delicious food in the city.
adverb	deliciously	The stew smells deliciously good.

verb	guide	The hostess guided us to our table.
noun	guidance	Li asked the waiter for guidance in selecting the wine.
noun	guide	I couldn't find any reviews for this restaurant in the online restaurant guide.

verb	mix	The chef never mixes sweet ingredients with salty foods.
noun	mixture	The texture of the vegetable mixture was too lumpy for my taste.
adjective	mixable	Oil and water are not mixable.

verb	rely	We will rely on the hostess's recommendations.
noun	reliability	The reliability of deliveries became a problem for the manager.
adjective	reliable	Hiring a reliable staff is the first priority for every restaurant manager.

verb	suggest	Can I suggest a good wine to go with the entrée?
noun	suggestion	Clark asked his boss for a suggestion of a good place to eat.
adjective	suggestible	The patrons were in a suggestible mood, and were easily convinced to have dessert.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORDS IN CONTEXT

Read the following passage and write the words in the blanks below.

appeal	delicious	majority	secure
compromise	familiar	mix	subjective
daring	guidance	relies	suggestion

When Atul is trying to impress business contacts who are potential new clients, he takes them to the best restaurant in town. He hopes this will help (1) _____ a new contract for his telecommunications business.

It's hard to determine which restaurants are best. Atul (2) _____ on reviews that he finds on the Internet. He also asks his friends and colleagues for (3) _____. They are happy to make a (4) _____.

Food tastes are (5)_____. Although Atul likes to be (6) _____ and take risks, he knows that the food should (7) _____ to a variety of palates. He realizes that a dish that he enjoys may not taste (8) _____ to someone else. He wants the (9) _____ of his guests to be happy. He usually decides to (10) _____ on a restaurant that offers a menu with a (11) _____ of (12) _____ standards and some exciting specials.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORD PRACTICE

Listening Comprehension

Track 32



PART 1 PHOTO

Look at the picture and listen to the sentences. Choose the sentence that best describes the picture.

1. Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ

PART 2 QUESTION-RESPONSE

Listen to the question and the three responses. Choose the response that best answers the question.

2. Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ

3. Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ

PART 3 CONVERSATION

Listen to the dialogue. Then read each question and choose the best response.

4. How often do restaurant reviews appear in the local newspaper?
   (A) Every day
   (B) Every week
   (C) Every month
   (D) Every year

5. What is the man's opinion of restaurant reviews?
   (A) They are appealing.
   (B) They are usually helpful.
   (C) They are very subjective.
   (D) They are mean.

6. Who recommends restaurants to the man?
   (A) His friends
   (B) His mother
   (C) His brother
   (D) His coworkers

PART 4 TALK

Listen to the talk. Then read each question and choose the best answer.

7. Where is the listener now?
   (A) At home
   (B) In the bar
   (C) At the restaurant
   (D) In the parking lot

8. What does the speaker suggest?
   (A) Driving to the restaurant
   (B) Arriving early for drinks
   (C) Making a reservation
   (D) Bringing a big appetite

9. What time is the reservation for?
   (A) 7:30
   (B) 8:00
   (C) 8:30
   (D) 11:00

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading

PART 5 INCOMPLETE SENTENCES

Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

10. The colorful vegetables made the dish look _____.
    (A) appealed (C) appeals
    (B) appealing (D) appealingly

11. Even though the restaurant looked expensive, Pat _____ to order her meal without asking about the prices.
    (A) daring (C) dared
    (B) daringly (D) dares

12. If you need some _____ on what to order, be sure to consult your server.
    (A) guide (C) guided
    (B) guides (D) guidance

13. The _____ of sweet and spicy flavors in this dish is unusual but really delicious.
    (A) compromise (C) appeal
    (B) majority (D) mix

14. This website accepts reviews from anybody, so I would question their _____.
    (A) rely (C) reliability
    (B) reliance (D) relying

15. I wasn't sure where to take my clients for dinner, but my friend Lola _____ several nice restaurants.
    (A) suggested (C) relied
    (B) secured (D) dared

PART 6 TEXT COMPLETION

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A DELICIOUS LUNCH EXPERIENCE THAT WON'T EMPTY YOUR WALLET?

TRY THE BLUE SHUTTERS CAFÉ.

OUR VARIED MENU _____ TO ALL TASTES.

16. (A) appeal
    (B) appeals
    (C) appealed
    (D) are appealing

WE'RE FAMOUS FOR OUR HOMEMADE SOUPS, GARDEN-FRESH SALADS, AND FRESHLY BAKED BREADS AND PASTRIES.

TRY OUR HOMEMADE PIES IN ALL FLAVORS FROM _____ FAVORITES LIKE

17. (A) famously
    (B) famished
    (C) familiar
    (D) family

APPLE PIE TO EXOTIC CHOICES SUCH AS LOGANBERRY AND CHESTNUT MERINGUE. BUT _____ ON OUR WORD ALONE. COME ON DOWN AND TRY FOR YOURSELF.

18. (A) no rely
    (B) not rely
    (C) not to rely
    (D) don't rely

WE'RE OPEN MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY FROM 11:00 A.M. UNTIL 2:30 P.M.

READ ABOUT THE BLUE SHUTTERS CAFÉ IN THE RECENT EDITION OF THE LOCAL RESTAURANT GUIDE "RESTAURANTS OF RIVERDALE."

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART 7 READING COMPREHENSION

Questions 19–23 refer to the following restaurant review and e-mail message.

The Mountain View Restaurant is a charming dinner location that just opened up in Falls Village. The menu provides an interesting mix of both meat and vegetarian entrées. The chef, who trained in Paris, has introduced some exotic dishes such as Octopus Soufflé and Three Tuber Salad. For the less daring diner, the menu also abounds in such familiar choices as Baked Chicken and Pepper Crusted Steak. Whether you choose to rely on a familiar dish or decide to experiment with something exotic, you are sure to be delighted with your meal. All the selections I tasted were delicious, and the prices are quite reasonable. Don't forget to leave room for dessert. I especially suggest the chocolate cake. It's the best in town. Unfortunately, the charm of the menu selections is not matched by the charm of the décor. It is rather drab and uninspiring. If you visit the inn on a weekend evening, arrive by 6:00 since the restaurant does not take reservations, and it is difficult to get a table after 7:00 unless you are willing to wait half an hour or more.

To: Margaret Smithers
From: Anna Simpson
Subject: Dinner out

Hi Margaret,

Did you read the review of the Mountain View Inn in this Sunday's Falls Village Times? It sounds great. I usually read the restaurant reviews in that paper, and the majority of them are quite accurate. I rely on those reviews a great deal more than the ones in our local restaurant guide. I think we should try the inn. Are you free Saturday night? I think we should arrive at the time suggested in the paper. Then we can have a relaxed meal and still have time to go to an 8:30 movie afterward. Can you do it? Let me know before you leave work today.

Anna

19. What is the reviewer's opinion of the restaurant?
    (A) The prices are too high.
    (B) The food is very good.
    (C) The décor is exotic.
    (D) The menu is boring.

20. What does the reviewer recommend ordering?
    (A) Octopus soufflé
    (B) Tuber salad
    (C) Baked chicken
    (D) Chocolate cake

21. When does Anna want to arrive at the restaurant?
    (A) Before 6:00
    (B) After 7:00
    (C) At 8:00
    (D) By 8:30

22. The word *mix* in line 4 of the restaurant review is closest in meaning to
    (A) style.
    (B) combination.
    (C) number.
    (D) course.

23. The word *majority* in line 5 of the e-mail is closest in meaning to
    (A) few.
    (B) some.
    (C) most.
    (D) several.

LIVEWORKSHEETS