## Children

## 366 Meeting children

And how are you today?
And what is your name?
How old are you?

## 367 Concerning a child's growth and development

You've gotten so big!
You're growing so tall.
You're turning into (quite) a little lady.
You're turning into (quite) a little gentleman.
What a big girl!
My, my! Haven't you grown!

## 368

Posing questions to children

What grade are you in?
How do you like school?
Do you go to school yet?
How many years till you're in school?
What's your favorite subject in school?
Have you been a good boy?
Are you being a good girl?
How many brothers and sisters do you have?

## 369

Praising a small child

That's very good.
You're a good little boy.
You're a good little girl.
Good boy!
Good girl!

Big boy!
What a big girl!
I'm so proud of you.
Mommy's proud of you.
We are very proud of you.

## 370 Scolding a child

Behave.
Behave yourself.
Be good.
Be a good girl.
Be a good boy.
That's enough of that!

## 371 <br> Encouraging a child to be quiet

Sit down.
Be quiet.
Quiet!
Let's be quiet.
Shhh!
Hush!
Not another word!
I don't want to hear a(nother) peep out of you!
a peep $=$ a sound
I don't want to hear a single peep out of you!
372 Asking a child to stop some behavior

Stop it.
Stop that.
Settle down.
That's enough of that!
Simmer down.

Put that down.
Keep your hands to yourself.
Look with your eyes not your hands. (cliché)
Put that away.
Leave that alone.
Don't touch that.
Stop playing with that.

## 374 Asking a child to leave people alone

Don't bother your father while he's driving. Stop pestering your little brother.
Keep your hands to yourself.
Keep your hands off your little brother.
Stop teasing your little sister.
Leave him alone.
Leave him be.
Let him be.

## 375

Making sure a child understands


Do as I say.
Do as I say, not as I do.
Do as I tell you.
Do what I tell you.
Do as you're told.
Do you understand?
Understand?
Is that clear?
Have I made myself clear?
Do I make myself clear?
Do I make myself perfectly clear?
Did you hear me?

Do you hear me?
Do you hear?

Concerning a child's use of good manners

Mind your manners.
Mind your Ps and Qs. (idiomatic)
Behave.
Behave yourself.
I expect you to be on your best behavior.
Act like a lady.
Act like a gentleman.
Say "excuse me."
Say "thank you."
Say "you're welcome."
Say "please."
What's the magic word?
the magic word $=$ the word please
What do you say?
= Say "please."
Yes, what?

= Say "Yes, sir; Yes, ma’am; or Yes, please."
(Always) remember to say please and thank you.

## FOOD AND DRINK

## Restaurants

377 Asking for a table at a restaurant
A table for one.
A table for two.

Two, please.
I would like a nonsmoking table for two.
I have a reservation.

Concerning seating in a restaurant

Would you like smoking or nonsmoking?
Smoking or nonsmoking?
Smoking or non?
Do you have a reservation?
How many in your party?
Table for four?
Party of four?


$$
\text { party }=\text { group }
$$

Four?
We'll have a table ready in just a few minutes.
It'll be just a few minutes.
There's a ten-minute wait.
We have a table ready for Smith, party of four.
Table for Smith, party of four.
Smith, party of four.
Your waiter will be Alfredo.
Enjoy your meal. (cliché)
Enjoy. (informal)

Concerning smoking in a restaurant

Is this a nonsmoking restaurant?
Do you have a nonsmoking section?
I'd like the smoking section.
I'd like the nonsmoking section.
Please seat me as far as possible from the smoking section.
Smoking.
Nonsmoking.

Another party will be sitting here.
We are waiting for another couple.
My friend will be along shortly.
I am expecting someone else.
I'm waiting for someone else.

Greetings from a waiter or waitress

Hello.
Sorry to keep you waiting.
How are you today?
My name's Sandy. I'll be your waitress this evening.
My name's Sandy. I'll be your server this evening.
I'm Bobby. I'm your server.

## 382 <br> Questions a waiter or waitress might ask

Are you waiting for someone?
Will someone be joining you?
Good evening, would you care for a drink?
Would you like to start with a cocktail?
Would you like something to drink first?
Would you like to order a drink?
Can I get you something to drink?
Would anyone like coffee?
Coffee?
Cream or sugar?
Would you like to see a menu?
Would you care to see the wine list?
Are you ready to order?


Do you need a few more minutes (to decide what you want)?
Would you like to see the menu again for dessert?

Let me tell you about our specials today.
The special of the day is roast beef and brown gravy with potatoes and two vegetables.
The specials are listed on the board.
The specials are on the right side (of the menu).

When a restaurant is out of some item

I'm sorry, we're out of that.
Sorry, it's all gone.
The chef informs me we're out of that. (formal)

385 Questions asked of a restaurant customer

How would you like that prepared?
How would you like your steak prepared?
How would you like your steak?
How would you like that done?
How would you like that?
What kind of potatoes would you like?
Mashed, boiled, hash browns, or French fries?
Would you like a baked potato, fries, or rice?
That comes with a salad.
Would you like soup or salad with that?
Soup or salad?


The soup of the day is split pea or chicken noodle.
Our dressings are Ranch, Italian, Thousand Island, Greek, and house.
bouse $=$ the standard dressing used in this restaurant
Would you like some fresh ground pepper?
Say when.
= Speak when you have had enough.

Coffee, please.
I'd like some coffee.
I'd like some decaf.
decaf $=$ decaffeinated coffee
I'd like an espresso.
I'd like tea.
Just coffee for the moment.
Just coffee for now.
Black coffee.
Coffee with cream.
Cream and sugar.
Can you get me a glass of water?


Could we have some water, please?

387 Requesting attention from a waiter or waitress

Can you come here when you have a second?
Oh, waiter!
Oh, miss!
Excuse me, ma'am.
Pardon me.
Excuse me.

Explaining to a waiter or waitress that you are not ready to order

We need a couple more minutes to decide.
I need a few more minutes to decide.
Could I see a menu, please?
I'm not ready to order yet.
I haven't figured out what I want yet.
I haven't decided yet.

We're ready to order.
Can we order now?
Can you take our orders now?
We're ready.

Asking about specific items on a restaurant menu

What are the specials?
What is the special of the day?
Do you have any specials?
What would you suggest?
Do you have any recommendations?
What's good today?
What does that come with?
What comes with that?
Does that come with a salad?
What kind of dressing do you have?
Do you have any lo-cal dressing?
lo-cal = low calorie
What's the soup of the day?
Is that prepared with meat?
Is there meat in that?
Do you have vegetarian dishes?


Requesting that certain foods not be served to you in a restaurant

No mayo(nnaise), please.
mayo $($ nnaise $)=$ nuts, onions, garlic, lettuce, bacon, pickles, etc.
No mayo.
Hold the mayo.
Leave off the mayo.

I'd like that without MSG, please.
MSG $=$ monosodium glutamate, typically used in Chinese food
Does this contain MSG?
Does this contain nuts?
I cannot tolerate nuts. I'm allergic.
No nuts. I'm allergic.
No MSG, please.
I'm allergic to dairy products.
I'm allergic to wheat.

Telling how a steak is to be cooked in a restaurant

I'd like my steak well done. well done $=$ completely cooked

I'd like my steak rare. rare $=$ partially cooked

I'd like my steak medium. medium $=$ between rare and well done

Please make sure it's well-done.
I'd like my steak medium-well.
I want the steak thoroughly cooked.
I'd like my steak medium-rare.
Can I get it rare?


394 Requesting additional servings in a restaurant

I need more coffee.
Could I have more coffee, please?
Could I have some more bread, please?
Could I have some more water, please?
More bread, please. (informal)
Could I have some more butter?

May I see the wine list?
Could I see your wine list?
I'd like a glass of wine.
I'd like a carafe of wine.
We'd like to order a bottle of wine.

Making a complaint in a restaurant

I can't eat this.
This meat is too fatty.
This meat is too tough.
This meat isn't fresh.
This fish isn't fresh.
I didn't order this.
These vegetables are hardly cooked at all.


The vegetables are overcooked and mushy.
This is cold. Can you take it back to the kitchen?
Could I speak with the manager, please?

## 397 <br> Asking about the location of a restroom in a public building

Is there somewhere I could wash my hands?
Where are the public restrooms?
Where is the washroom?
Where is the men's room?
Where is the ladies' room?
Where would I find the restrooms?
Where's the john? (informal)
the jobn = the toilet; a restroom

Ordering food to be taken out

Do you have carryout?
I would like to order something to carry out.

Can I get that to go?
To go, please.

## 399 <br> Requests to have uneaten food wrapped so it can be taken home

Could you wrap this, please?
Could we have a doggie bag?
a doggie bag = a special bag or container for taking uneaten food
home from a restaurant (as if it were being taken bome to feed the dog)
I'd like to take the rest.
I'd like to take the rest home.

## 400 When your food is brought to the table in a restaurant

Here's your order.
There you go.
Careful, the plate is hot.
Enjoy your meal.
Enjoy. (informal)

401 Asking for a diner's opinion of a meal

I hope that everything is satisfactory.
Is everything all right?
Is everything OK?
How are you doing?
Are you enjoying your meal?
How's your steak?
How's that steak?


## 402 <br> A waiter or waitress seeking to be of further service

More coffee?
Is there anything I can get for you?
Is there anything I can get you?

Is there anything else?
Is there anything else I can get for you this evening? (formal)
Is there anything else I can get for you?
Anything else I can do for you?

403 A waiter or waitress offering dessert

Would you care for dessert?
Would you like to try one of our desserts?
Would you like to see the dessert menu?
Would you like to see the menu again?
Let me show you the dessert tray.

Asking for the bill in a restaurant

Could I have the bill?
Could I have the check?
We'd like the bill, please.
Check, please.
Separate checks, please.
Do I pay you or the cashier?
Do you take this (credit card)?
Can I have a receipt, please?
May I have a receipt, please? (formal)


We are ready to leave now.
All together.
All on one (check).

## 405 About payment for a meal in a restaurant

Is this all on one bill?
Separate checks?
You can pay at the register.
You can pay me.
I'll take it when you're ready.

There seems to be a mistake.
We did not order this item.
Does this include the tip?
Does this include a gratuity?
Is a gratuity included?
Keep the change.

## Bars

## 407 A bartender asking what you want

What's yours?
What'll you have?
May I help you?
What'll it be, friend? (informal)
Another (of the same)?

## 408 <br> Asking what's available at a bar

What (beer) do you have on tap?
on tap $=$ ready to be drawn from a keg
What kind of beer do you have?
What beers ya got? (informal)
What (beer) do you have on draft?
on draft = ready to be drawn from a keg
What kinds of wine do you have?
Do you have any imported beer?


I'll have a beer.
I'll have $=$ Please give me, Give me, I'll take, Make mine, Gimme, Do you have (?)
I'll have a Bud.
Bud = Miller's, Budweiser, Heineken, Mich(elob), Special Export, Coors, etc.
I'll have a draft.
a draft $=$ a beer drawn from a keg, or a bottle of beer with "Draft" in the brand name

Make it a cold one.
a cold one $=$ a cold beer
Pour me a beer. (informal)
Give me a beer. (informal)

## 410 Various requests for drinks from a bartender

I'd like (some) coffee.
I'd like = Can I please have (?), I'll take, Please get me
I'd like (some) coffee with cream.
I'd like (some) coffee with sugar.
I'd like (some) coffee with cream and sugar.
I'd like a Coke.
I'd like some Coke.
I'd like a diet cola.
I'd like a mineral water.
I'd like a beer.
I'd like a glass of beer.
I'd like a stein of beer.
I'd like a pitcher of beer.
I'd like a light beer.
I'd like a dark beer.
I'd like a domestic beer.
I'd like a draft beer.


I'd like an ale.
I'd like a lager.
I'd like a glass of wine.
I'd like some champagne.
I'd like a scotch.
I'd like a scotch on the rocks.
I'd like a whiskey with soda.
I'd like a gin and tonic.
I'd like a gin and tonic with a twist.

## 411 Special instructions to a bartender

Make it dry.
$=I$ prefer a dry Martini or a dry wine.
Hold the cherry.
Give me another.
I'll have another (one) of the same.
the same $=$ the same as previously ordered
I'll have the same.
Two olives, please.
I'd like it on the rocks.
on the rocks $=$ with ice cubes
Make that on the rocks.

412 Buying drinks with friends

I'm buying.
Let me get this (one).
It's on me.
on me $=$ on my account $=$ I'm paying
The next round is on me.
round $=$ an order of drinks for everyone
No, no, this one's on me!
This is my round.
This round's on me.


It's on me.
I'm buying.
Who's buying?
Want to run a tab?
a tab $=$ a running account

## 413 Charges for drinks at a bar

That'll be six bucks.
Do you wish to pay me now?
Would you like to start a tab?
You've run up quite a tab.
You really have to pay something von your bill.

## 414 Expressions used with friends at a bar asking about drinks

What are we having?
Do you all want to get a pitcher?
Anyone for a pizza? Name your poison.
What'll you have?
What's yours?
Care for another?


415 Expressions about drinking additional drinks
I'm going to drown my sorrows.
Let's have another round.
Let's have a nightcap.
a nightcap $=$ a final drink of the evening
Let's knock back another.
Let's toss one back.

I'll have just a nip. a nip = a swallow
I'll have just a sip.
I'll have a shot.
a shot = a swallow; a jigger
Give me a swig. a swig = a swallow

Give me a hit.
a bit $=$ a swallow
Give me a jigger.
a jigger $=1.5$ ounces; a 1.5 -ounce glass

## 417 Encouraging someone to drink

That'll put hair on your chest. (idiomatic)
= The drink is strong, and it will invigorate you.
Let's tie one on. (slang)
$=$ Let's get drunk.
That'll knock your socks off. (idiomatic)
$=$ The drink is very strong, and it will shock your system.
This'll wet your whistle. (idiomatic)
$=$ This drink will quench your thirst.
Let's get down to some serious drinking. (informal)
$=$ Let's get drunk together.
Have a hair of the dog that bit you. (cliché)
$=$ Have some more of what made you drunk.
Let's paint the town red. (cliché)
$=$ Let's celebrate .
Party down! (slang)
Party hearty! (slang)
Party hardy! (slang)

Is it closing time already?
Last call already?
last call $=$ the announcement of the last opportunity to purchase a drink before closing time
When do we have to be out of here?
When's last call?

## 419 Encouraging someone to finish a drink

Drain it.
Drink up.
Have one for the road.
Pound it and let's go. (slang)

420 Drinking toasts

Here's looking at you.
Here's mud in your eye.
Here's to you.
Here's to us.
To your health!
To John V. Jones!
Cheers!
Down the hatch!
Bottoms up!
Drink up!
To life!


421 When someone drinks too much

I think that this is your last one.
I think you've had enough.
That's all for you, Bud. (informal)

Haven't you had about enough?
Do you really think you ought to have another one?

## 422 <br> Stating that someone is drunk

He's feeling no pain. (informal)
He's drunk as a skunk. (informal)
He's three sheets to the wind. (informal)
He's stone drunk.
He's tanked. (slang)
He's pickled. (slang)
He's as drunk as a lord. (informal)

## Home Cooking

## 423 Stating that you are hungry

I'm hungry.
I'm famished.
I'm starved.
I'm ravenous.
My mouth is watering.
That stew is mouthwatering.
I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.
I could eat a horse. (cliché)
I'm (just) dying of hunger.


Asking when a meal will be ready

When do we eat?
When's chow? (slang)
When's dinner?
When's supper?
When will supper be ready?

What's to eat?
What's for supper?
What are we having?

## 426 Stating when food will be ready

Dinner's almost ready.
It's almost done.
It will be on the table in a minute.
It's almost ready.
(It's) time to eat.
It's time to sit down.
Dinner's ready.
Please be seated at the table.
Dinner is served. (formal)
Soup's on! (informal)
$=$ Dinner's ready!

Offering someone a bit of food

Would you like a taste?
How about a bite?
Would you like a bite?
Want a taste?


## 428 Blessing the food

Who wants to say grace?
Shall we say grace? (formal)
Shall we pray? (formal)
Let's pray.
Let us pray. (formal)

Please pass me the salt.
Please pass the pepper.
Please pass the butter.
Could you pass the rolls around?
Could you start the rolls around?
Could you start the rolls going around?
Could I have some gravy?
Would you like the salt and pepper?
Would you care for the butter?
Would you care for some butter?


430 Concerning additional servings of food

Could you pour me some more milk?
More milk, please.
Could I have seconds, please?
May I have seconds, please?
Would you like some more of this?
Is there any more of this?
What's for dessert?

431 Enforcing good table manners

Don't put your elbows on the table.
Don't talk with your mouth full.
Don't read at the table.
No TV during dinner.
$T V=$ television
No texting at the table.
Turn that cell phone off.

Wipe your mouth.
Put your napkin on your lap.
Put your napkin in your lap.

432 Cleaning up after a meal

Can you help me with the dishes?
Please carry your own dishes to the kitchen.
I'll wash and you dry.
I'll scrape and you load (the dishwasher).

433 Excusing oneself from the table

Do you mind if I leave the table? (said by an adult)
I'll have to excuse myself. (said by an adult)
May I please leave the table? (said by a child)
May I be excused?
(said by a child)


## Encouraging children to eat

Finish your food.
Be quiet and eat your dinner.
Be quiet and eat your food.
You have to clean up your plate.
If you don't eat your vegetables, you won't get any dessert.
There are starving children in Africa. (cliché)
Africa $=$ Bosnia, Asia, South America, etc.

## SHOPPING

## Stores and Shops

## 435 Asking about store hours

When are you open?
When do you open?
How late are you open (today)?
What are your hours?
Are you open on weekends?
Are you open on Saturday?
Are you open after five?

A salesperson greeting a customer

May I help you?
Can I help you?
Can I help you find something?
Can I help you with something?
Can I show you something?
Are you being helped?
Is someone waiting on you?
Is there anything I can help you with?
Is there anything I can help you with today?
Is there anything I can help you find today?


437 A salesperson offering help to a customer

If you need me, I'll be right here.
If you need any help, I'll be right here.
If you need me, my name's Linda.
If you need any help, my name's Linda.
If I can help you find anything, I'll be right over here.

If I can help you, just let me know.
There's a mirror over there.
The changing rooms are over there.
Only six items in the dressing room at a time.
Only six items allowed in the dressing rooms.

## Questions a salesperson might ask a customer

What are you interested in?
Are you looking for something in particular?
Are you looking for anything in particular?
Do you have anything in mind?
Do you have something specific in mind?
Do you know what you want?
What size do you need?
Do you know what size you are?

439 Offering merchandise to a customer

I've got just your size.
I've got just what you're looking for.
I've got exactly what you need.
I have just the thing.
just the thing $=$ exactly the right thing
Have I got something for you! (informal)
May I suggest this?
That's on sale this week.

Offering additional help to a customer


Do you need anything to go with that? Is there anything else I can interest you in? Is there anything else I can get for you? Is there anything else I can help you with?
What else can I do for you?

Where is the men's shop?
Where is ladies' wear?
ladies' wear $=$ women's clothing department
Where is the shoe department?
What floor is furniture on?
Where are the children's clothes?
Where's children's clothes? (informal)
Where can I find children's clothes?
Do you sell appliances here?
Where is the credit department?
Is there a public restroom here?

## 442 Shopping for something at a department store

I'm looking for something for my wife.
I'm looking for something for my husband.
It's a gift.
I need a size 34 .
I don't know my size.
Can you measure me?
Would you measure my waist, please?
I need a belt.
I need some jeans.
I need a pair of pants.
I need socks.
I need a pair of socks.
I need gloves.
I need a pair of gloves.
I need a bathing suit.
I need a swimsuit.


I'm just browsing.
Thank you, I'm just looking.
Just looking.

Choosing merchandise in a store

I just can't make up my mind.
I'm not sure which I like.
Which do you prefer?

445 Questions a customer might ask in a store

Do you have this in blue?
Do you have this in suede?
Do you have this in wool?
Do you have this in a larger size?
Do you have this in a smaller size?
Do you have something a bit less expensive?
Do you have anything less expensive?
Got anything cheaper? (informal)
Do you have this in stock?
Do you have any more of these?


Do you have a shirt to match this?
Do you have a shirt to match?

## 446 When a customer wants to try on clothing

I'd like to try this on.
I want to try this on.
Can I try these on?
Where is the fitting room?
How many items can I take in the dressing room?

That looks nice on you.
That looks great on you.
That's your color.
This is you!
It's you!
That's you!
That flatters you.
That's very flattering.
That really flatters your figure.


448 Asking how a purchase will be paid for

How would you like to pay for this?
How do you want to pay for this?
Would you like to put that on layaway?
layaway $=$ a purchase method where a deposit is made and the merchandise is held by the merchant until the balance is paid
Will that be cash or credit?
Will that be cash or charge?
What method of payment will you use?
Do you have our store card?
Would you like to sign up for our store card?

## 449 When a salesperson cannot supply exactly what is wanted

We don't have that in your size.
We don't have it in that color.
We're out of that item.
I can back-order that for you.
I can issue you a rain check.
It will be delivered to the store within a week.
We can notify you by phone or e-mail.
You can order it from our website.

It's too tight.
It's too loose.
I don't like the color.
I'll have to keep looking for what I want.
It's a little pricey.

$$
\text { pricey }=\text { expensive }
$$

It's too expensive.


## 451 Asking about payment plans in a store

Is it on sale?
Will it be on sale soon?
Is it going on sale soon?
Can I put it on layaway?
layaway $=$ a purchase method where a deposit is made and the merchandise is beld by the merchant until the balance is paid
Can you hold it for me?
Will you hold it for me?
Do you have a layaway plan?
Do you take credit?
Can I apply for a credit card?
What financing options do you have?

Getting a purchase gift wrapped in a store

Can I get it gift wrapped?
May I get it gift wrapped?
Can I get this gift wrapped?
Where is the gift-wrap counter?
Is there a charge for gift wrapping?
Can you gift wrap that?
Would you please gift wrap that?

## TELEPHONES AND MOBILE DEVICES

## Answering the Telephone

Receiving communications on your mobile device

That's my phone.
It's my ring tone.
I'm being texted.
Do you mind if I take this call?
I need to take this call.
Sorry, do you mind if I take this?
I'll just be a minute.
I just need to send a reply.
I need to text her back.

## 454 Answering the telephone-residential

Hello.
Smith residence.
Hello, Smith residence.
Yo! (informal)
Yeah! (informal)
Yes.
John Jones.
Hello, this is John Jones (speaking).
John Jones, may I help you?
John.
John, may I help you?


455 Answering the telephone-business

City Hall. What department please?
Smith Company.

Smith Company, may I help you?
Smithco, how may I direct your call?

## 456 <br> Asking whom a telephone caller wants to talk to

Who do you want to talk to?
Who do you want to speak with?
Who do you wish to speak to?
Whom do you wish to speak to?
With whom do you wish to speak? (formal)
Do you know her extension?

457 Screening someone's telephone calls

May I tell her who's calling?
May I ask who is calling?
Whom may I say is calling? (formal)
Who shall I say is calling?
Whom shall I say is calling? (formal)
Who's calling?
Is she expecting your call?


458 Connecting or transferring a telephone caller

Do you wish me to page Mrs. Robins?
I will see if she's in the building.
Let me page her.
Let me connect you with that department.

## 459

Putting a telephone caller on hold

He is on another line. Will you hold?
Would you care to hold? (formal)
Would you like to hold?
Just a moment, please.
Please hold.

Hold, please.
Hold the line. (informal)
Can you hold?

460 Interrupting a telephone call with other business

Just a moment; I have another call.
Hang on a moment.
to bang on = to wait
Hang on a sec(ond).

461
Taking a call off hold

For whom are you holding? (formal)
Whom are you holding for? (formal)
Who are you holding for?
Who's on the line?
Are you being helped?


Have you been helped?
May I help you?
Can I help you?

462 Offering to take a message from a telephone caller

He's not in; would you like to call back?
She is not available. Can I take a message?
She is away from her desk. Can I take a message?
May I take a message? (formal)
Could I take a message?
Could I have someone call you?

463 Offering to help a telephone caller

Is there anyone else who could help you?
I would be happy to try to answer your question.

Would you care to talk to her secretary?
Could I help you?

Bringing a telephone call to an end

I have to get back to work before the boss sees me.
I have to get back to my work. I will call again later.
There's someone on the other line. I must say good-bye now.
I really have to go now.
I'll have to take your number and call you back.
Can I call you back? Something
has come up.
Can we continue this later?
My other line is ringing.
The doorbell is ringing.
I'll call you back.


