

10 Explaining the menu



The Post Meridian Restaurant ***** Lunch Menu

Entrées

Appetizers

- Fried chicken strips, served with a honey mustard dipping **sauce**.
- **Baked** potato skins, served with any three of the following: cheese, bacon, onions, beans, lettuce.
- Shrimp **platter** with cocktail sauce (serves two).
- House salad with our signature dressing (low-fat and low-calorie option).

All entrées are **cooked to order**.
Entrées come with your choice of soup or salad.

- **Broiled** salmon with rice and **steamed** broccoli (low-fat and low-calorie option).
- Meridian Burger, topped with melted cheese and a **spicy** sauce, with a side of our award-winning fries.
- Steak **grilled** to perfection, served with boiled potatoes and peas.
- Pork chops **simmered** in a **sweet** and **sour** sauce, with rice.
- Half a **roasted** chicken, seasoned with herbs, with a side of our salty potato chips.

Desserts

- Chocolate brownie with caramel sauce.
- Steaming hot apple pie **à la mode**.
- Raspberry sorbet, with fresh berries (low-fat option).

Vocabulary

3 Match the words with the blanks.

1 steamed / baked

Mrs. Johnson _____ the meatloaf in the oven.

James heated the water and _____ the vegetables.

2 spicy / sweet

Sarah turned red and her eyes watered because her food was very _____.

Phillip put four spoonfuls of sugar in his coffee because he likes it _____.

3 fried / roasted

Mike _____ the chicken for several hours in the oven.

Gina _____ the fish in lots of oil, to make it crispy.

4 grill / simmer

I let the sauce _____ for several minutes, making sure that it didn't start to boil.

Dad liked to _____ because he preferred to cook outside, over a fire.

5 salty / sour

I put some lemon juice into the water because I like _____ foods.

Jenny felt thirsty because she ate a lot of _____ beef jerky.

Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What is your favorite food to order from a menu?
- 2 What are some ways that food is prepared?

Reading

2 Read the lunch menu from a restaurant, and then mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 _____ The restaurant has menu options for people on a diet.
- 2 _____ Customers are not allowed to share meals at the restaurant.
- 3 _____ The restaurant doesn't open until dinner time.

4 Complete the word or phrase that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

- The couple ordered two small dishes which are eaten at the start of a meal.
_ _ p e _ i _ _ r s
- We ate steak that was cooked for a short time at very hot temperature. _ _ o i _ e _
- Mom set the large plate used for serving food on the dining table. _ l _ t _ e _
- The chicken was prepared in a thick, cooked liquid and served over rice. _ a _ c _
- The food tastes great because it is only prepared when it is ordered.
c _ _ k _ d t _ o _ d e _
- I ate fish with peas for my main dish of the meal. _ n t _ é _

5 Listen and read the menu again. How many main dishes are available at the restaurant?

Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between a restaurant server and a customer. Then answer the questions.

- What is the conversation mostly about?
 - a description of foods on the menu
 - a guide to preparing a dish
 - a problem with the man's order
 - a compliment about the meal
- Why doesn't the man want the potato skins?
 - He does not like baked foods.
 - He prefers dishes that are fried.
 - He cannot eat spicy foods.
 - He wants to eat something sweet.

7 Listen again, and fill in the blanks.

Server: Hi - my name's Brittany and I'll be your 1 _____ today.

Customer: Hi. I have a question about the 2 _____.

Server: What is it?

Customer: I see you have 3 _____ . How are those prepared?

Server: The potato skins are baked, sir.

Customer: I see. And are they very 4 _____ ?

Server: No, but they are salty.

Customer: Oh, I don't like 5 _____ . I'd rather have something 6 _____ .

Server: Then you might like the fried chicken strips.

Customer: Are those sweet?

Server: Well, the chicken isn't sweet. But the dipping sauce that comes with it is.

Customer: That sounds fantastic. Thanks!

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below, based on the dialogue from Task 7. Decide who Student A and Student B are. Then switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

*I'll be your server today. How are the ... prepared?
Is it very ...?*

Student A: You are a customer at the Post Meridian Restaurant. Ask Student B about:

- how a dish is prepared
 - what the dishes taste like
- Tell Student B the kinds of food you like, how you like it cooked, etc. Make up a name for the server.

Student B: You are a server at the Post Meridian Restaurant. Answer Student A's questions. Then make a suggestion based on the type of food he or she likes.

Writing

9 Imagine that you are a food critic. Use the information from the menu and Task 8 to write a magazine review of the food you ate at the hotel restaurant (100-120 words). Make sure to answer the following questions:

MAGAZINE FOOD REVIEW

- How was the food prepared?
- How did the food taste?
- What did you think of the service?

