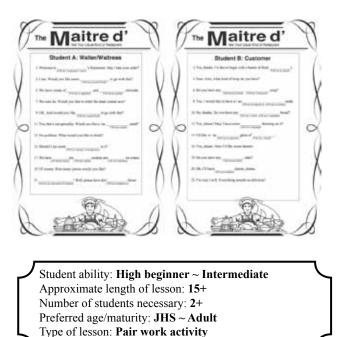




## The Maitre d'



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Language Target: Simple present tense practice, using articles, count vs. non-count nouns and singular vs. plural nouns.

Setting Up: The teacher says to a student: *Tell me a vegetable*.

The student says, for example: Carrot.

Write **carrot** on the board then say: *Tell me an insect*.

## Student B: Cockroach.

Write **cockroach** on the board then say: *Tell me a number*.

Student C: *Fifty-nine*.

Write **59** on the board.

Invite students to make the request. They might say, for example: *Tell me an animal. Tell me a boy's name. Tell me a word that begins with the letter R. Tell me a body part*, etc.

Continue until the students understand the kind of questions and answers that will be used in this lesson.

Getting Started: In pairs, one student receives a copy of Worksheet A (the waiter or waitress) and the other receives a copy of Worksheet B (the customer).

**Part 1 (gathering information)**: Students **do not read** the dialogue yet. That will happen in Part 2 (see below).

At first, they only concentrate on the blank lines on the worksheets under which is written: **Tell me a** ... .

Student A begins by asking her partner: *Tell me classmate's name*.

Student B says, for example: Denise.

**Student A** writes **Denise** on the appropriate line on her worksheet.

Now Student B says: Tell me an insect.

Student A says, for example: Butterfly.

Student B writes butterfly on his worksheet

Student A then says: *Tell me a kind of food*.

Student B says, for example: Steak.

They continue asking each other for information until all of the blank spaces have been filled out on both worksheets.

**Part 2 (reading)**: After all of the information has been written, **Student A** begins by reading #1 on her worksheet followed by **Student B** reading #2 from his worksheet.

Students will be amused by the unusual menu items that are offered here.

Expect a few giggles as the very odd dialogue occurs between the waiter and the customer.

Variation 1: Encourage pairs of students read their scripts to another pair or to the rest of the class (this is really fun!).

Variation 2: All Worksheet A students remain in their seats while Worksheet B students rotate one to the right. This way, new pairs are formed.

Students read through **the Maitre d'** again – this time, half of the conversation will be brand new.

Variation 3: Use this lesson to reinforce the rules concerning count and non-count nouns, singular vs. plural forms and the use of articles "a" and "an."

**Building Fluency 1**: Using the worksheet as a model, students (in pairs) create a more realistic scene in a restaurant.

It's a good idea to point out the difference in meaning between: **Do you like**... vs. **Would you like**... .

**Building Fluency 2** : This could be an ideal way to begin a discussion about working (part time) as a waiter or waitress.

Contributed by Kurt Scheibner

Students could share some of their experiences, either as a customer in a restaurant or as part of the staff.

**Building Fluency 3**: Students could discuss some of the odd or strange food they have either eaten or heard about.

Similar Lessons: The Lost City of Ohmygosh (Lesson Collection Set 3 – Lesson 11a) The Doctor's Office (Lesson Collection Set 3 – Lesson 11c) A Call to Santa (Holiday Collection Set – Christmas 01) Cupid's Solution (Holiday Collection Set – Valentines 02) Trick or Treat (Holiday Collection Set – Halloween 03)

