Hospitality English & Kitchen Communication

Vocabulary & Definition Study Guide (Level A2)

4. Food, ingredients and kitchen communication

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
kitchen	The place where food is prepared and cooked.	
chef	A professional cook.	
head chef	The person who leads the kitchen team.	
executive chef	The chef responsible for the whole kitchen.	
sous-chef	The person who helps the head chef.	
pastry chef	A cook who makes cakes and desserts.	
kitchen assistant	A person who helps in the kitchen.	
kitchen porter	A person who cleans dishes and kitchen equipment.	
cook	A person who prepares and cooks food.	
cooking station	A place where a cook prepares a certain type of food.	
cold kitchen	The part of the kitchen where cold dishes are prepared.	
hot kitchen	The part of the kitchen where hot dishes are cooked.	
bakery	A place where bread and cakes are made.	
pastry section	The part of the kitchen where desserts are prepared.	
menu	A list of food and drinks in a restaurant.	
à la carte menu	A menu where guests choose each dish separately.	
set menu	A menu with a fixed selection of dishes.	
tasting menu	A meal with several small dishes.	
buffet	A meal where guests choose food from a large selection.	
breakfast buffet	A selection of breakfast foods for guests.	
lunch menu	A list of food available at lunchtime.	
dinner menu	A list of food available in the evening.	
seasonal menu	A menu with food available at a certain time of year.	
children's menu	A menu with dishes for children.	

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
vegetarian menu	A selection of dishes without meat or fish.	
vegan menu	A selection of dishes without animal products.	
starter	A small dish eaten before the main course.	
appetiser	A small dish served before the main meal.	
soup	A liquid dish made with vegetables, meat or other ingredients.	
salad	A dish made with raw or cooked vegetables.	
main course	The most important dish of a meal.	
side dish	Food served together with the main course.	
dessert	Sweet food eaten at the end of a meal.	
cheese board	A selection of different cheeses served together.	
bread selection	Different types of bread offered to guests.	
ingredients	The foods used to prepare a dish.	
fresh produce	Fresh fruit and vegetables.	
local produce	Food grown or made in the nearby area.	
local farmer	A person who grows food or keeps farm animals nearby.	
supplier	A person or company that provides products.	
delivery	Products brought to the hotel.	
fresh herbs	Fresh leaves used to add flavour to food.	
spices	Dried plants used to give food more flavour.	
seasoning	Salt, pepper and other things added to food.	
sauce	A liquid or soft food served with a dish.	
dressing	A sauce added to a salad.	

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
garnish	A small decoration added to a dish.	
portion	The amount of food served to one person.	
portion size	The amount of food on one plate.	
food presentation	The way food looks when served.	
food quality	How good or fresh food is.	
food freshness	How fresh the food is.	
food temperature	How hot or cold the food is.	
food allergy	A bad reaction to a certain food.	
food intolerance	A problem when the body cannot easily accept certain food.	
gluten-free	Food without gluten.	
dairy-free	Food without milk products.	
nut-free	Food without nuts.	
vegetarian	A person who does not eat meat or fish.	
vegan	A person who does not eat animal products.	
organic	Food produced without many artificial chemicals.	
sustainable	Produced in a way that is better for nature.	
food waste	Food that is thrown away instead of being eaten.	
food safety	Rules for preparing and serving food safely.	
expiry date	The date after which food should not be used.	
best-before date	The date until which food is expected to have good quality.	
to prepare	To make food ready for cooking or serving.	
to cook	To prepare food using heat.	
to grill	To cook food over or under strong heat.	
to fry	To cook food in hot oil or fat.	
to bake	To cook food in an oven.	

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
to boil	To cook food in very hot water.	
to steam	To cook food using hot water vapour.	
to roast	To cook food in an oven using dry heat.	
to chop	To cut food into small pieces.	
to slice	To cut food into thin pieces.	
to peel	To remove the outside skin of fruit or vegetables.	
to mix	To put different things together.	
to stir	To move food around with a spoon.	
to taste	To try a small amount of food.	
to season	To add salt, pepper or other spices to food.	
to garnish	To add a small decoration to a dish.	
to plate up	To put prepared food onto a plate.	
to send an order	To tell the kitchen what a guest has ordered.	
to check an order	To make sure the correct food has been prepared.	
to return a dish	To send food back to the kitchen.	
sold out	No more of a product or dish is available.	
unavailable	Not possible to get or order at that time.	

5. Welcoming guests and seating them

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
guest	A person who visits or stays at the hotel.	
diner	A person who eats in a restaurant.	
visitor	A person who comes to a place.	
regular guest	A person who visits the restaurant often.	
first-time guest	A person visiting the restaurant for the first time.	
VIP guest	A very important guest who may receive special service.	
hotel resident	A person staying at the hotel.	

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
outside guest	A person who visits the restaurant but does not stay at the hotel.	
greeting	Friendly words used when meeting someone.	
welcome	A friendly way to receive a guest.	
first impression	The first feeling someone has about a person or place.	
hospitality	Friendly care and service for guests.	
politeness	Good manners when speaking and behaving.	
friendliness	Being kind and pleasant to other people.	
eye contact	Looking at another person's eyes when speaking.	
body language	Messages we give with our face and body.	
facial expression	The way your face shows feelings.	
posture	The way you stand or sit.	
smile	A happy expression on your face.	
greeting guests	Saying hello and welcoming people.	
reservation	An arrangement to keep a table for a guest.	
booking	An arrangement made before visiting.	
booking confirmation	Information showing that a reservation is accepted.	
booking details	Information about a guest's reservation.	
reservation time	The time when a guest has booked a table.	
party size	The number of people in a group.	
walk-in guest	A guest who arrives without a reservation.	
waiting list	A list of people waiting for a table.	
waiting time	The time a guest must wait.	
available table	A table that is free for guests.	
occupied table	A table that is being used by guests.	

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
reserved table	A table kept for a guest with a booking.	
fully booked	When all tables have been reserved.	
seating arrangement	The way guests are placed at tables.	
window table	A table next to a window.	
corner table	A table in a corner of the restaurant.	
quiet table	A table in a place with less noise.	
private table	A table in a separate or quiet area.	
wheelchair access	The possibility for wheelchair users to enter a place.	
special request	Something extra a guest asks for.	
guest preference	Something a guest likes or wants.	
to greet	To say hello to someone.	
to welcome	To receive someone in a friendly way.	
to introduce yourself	To tell someone your name.	
to confirm	To say that something is correct or agreed.	
to check a booking	To look at the details of a reservation.	
to ask for a name	To ask what someone is called.	
to escort a guest	To go with a guest and show the way.	
to lead someone	To show someone where to go.	
to seat a guest	To show a guest to a table.	
to pull out a chair	To move a chair back for someone.	
to present the menu	To give the menu to the guest.	
to help with a coat	To help a guest take off or put on a coat.	
to offer assistance	To ask if someone needs help.	

6. Taking orders and talking to guests

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
order	A request for food or drinks.	
food order	A request for a dish or meal.	
drink order	A request for a drink.	
order pad	A small book used to write down orders.	
order number	A number used to identify an order.	
ordering system	A computer system used to record orders.	
menu description	Words explaining what a dish contains.	
daily special	A dish offered only on that day.	
recommendation	An idea about something good to choose.	
suggestion	An idea offered to another person.	
choice	Something selected from different possibilities.	
preference	Something a person likes more than other things.	
request	Something a guest asks for.	
question	Words used to ask for information.	
answer	Information given in reply to a question.	
explanation	Information that makes something clear.	
clarification	Information that makes something easier to understand.	
description	Words that explain what something is like.	
conversation	A talk between two or more people.	
communication	Sharing information with other people.	
active listening	Giving full attention when someone speaks.	
to take an order	To write down what a guest wants.	
to recommend	To tell someone what you think is a good choice.	
to suggest	To give someone an idea.	
to explain	To make something clear.	
to describe	To say what something looks or tastes like.	
to ask	To say something because you want information.	
to answer	To give information in reply.	
to listen carefully	To pay full attention to what someone says.	
to speak clearly	To use words that are easy to understand.	

Vocabulary	Definition (A2)	Translation / notes
to speak politely	To use friendly and respectful words.	
to repeat	To say something again.	
to confirm an order	To check that the order is correct.	
to write down	To put information on paper.	
to enter an order	To put an order into the computer system.	
to change an order	To make a different choice from the first one.	
to cancel an order	To say that you no longer want something.	
to make a request	To ask someone to do something.	
to meet a request	To do what a guest has asked.	
to check a preference	To find out what a guest likes.	
to inform a guest	To give a guest important information.	
to thank a guest	To show that you are grateful.	
to apologise	To say that you are sorry.	
to offer help	To ask if a guest needs assistance.	
to deal with a question	To answer or find an answer to a question.	
to avoid misunderstandings	To make sure people understand each other.	
to speak a foreign language	To communicate in a language from another country.	
language skills	The ability to speak and understand languages.	