Classification:

Appetizer/starter

Main course/mains/entrees

Dessert

Drink

Polite Modals:

Could/can I do something please? Or Could/can I please do something?

Would/could you please do something? Would/could you do something please?

I’ll take/have …

1. Beginning

G: "[Hi, I have a reservation at 7:15 for Rich Yu.](http://www.talkenglish.com/LessonDetails.aspx?ALID=418)"  
w: "[Oh, yes. Mr. Yu, your table will be ready in just a moment. You can wait right over there.](http://www.talkenglish.com/LessonDetails.aspx?ALID=418)"

or

w: “How many will you be tonight?” or “How many people are in your party?”

g: “Just two” or “two people”.

G: Could I see the memu, please? (W: here are your menus. I’ll be back to take your order in a few minutes)

W: here you are.

1. Ordering Food

W: are you ready to order? Or “Do you have any questions about the menu?” or can I take your order please?

A: yes/no, we are ready now. How about the hummus for my appetizer. And for my main dish, I’d like to have the steak please / [Can I have a couple more minutes?](http://www.talkenglish.com/LessonDetails.aspx?ALID=416) ("Can I have one more minute, please?")

Waiter: “How would you like that done?” or “How would you like that cooked?”

Diner: “**Medium**, please.” (**rare –> medium rare –> medium –> medium well –> well done)**

W: What about you, sir?

B: I don’t know. Could you please recommend something to eat?

(Waiter: “Would you like to hear the **specials** for tonight?” or “We have some specials this evening…” )

…

**W: Would you like something to drink?**

g: can I have some water please?

W: “Would you like tap or bottled water?”( or I’m sorry, we don’t have water on the menu please.)

g: Tap is fine.” or “Yes. I’d like some bottled water please”

**W: anything else?**

**G: that’s all, thanks.**

**W: May I get these menus out of the way for you please? (I’ll take your menus)**

**W: who had the…?**

**D: that was me.**

1. check
2. **Paying by cash**

G: waiter, could I have the bill please?

W: yes, sir

W: here is your check/bill, sir. Thank you.

G: here you are.

W: 200yuan. Please wait a minute. I’ll be right back with your changes and receipt.

W: Here is your changes and our receipt, thank you. Good night. Hope to see you again.

G: thank you. This is your tip.

W: thank you. But we don’t accept tips/ you are very kind. But no, thank you.

1. **Paying by credit card**

W: Here is your check, sir. Would you like to sign it to your room?

G: No, I’ll just pay in cash. Do you accept U.S. Dollars?

W: Yes, but we only have Chinese yuan for change. And the exchange rate is one hundred U.S. Dollar to RMB 804. Do you mind that?

G: well, may I use my credit card?

W: yes sure, what kind do you have, sir?

G: Visa card.

W: very good, sir. You have a 10% discount for using your visa card.

G: thank you, but what’s this for?

W: oh, this is fifteen percent of surcharge for tax and service.

G: oh, I see, here you are.

W: thank you. I’ll return your visa card and receipt in a few minutes.

W: will you please also sign on the bill, sir? Thank you, bye-bye. Have a nice day.

Fast Food:

W: Welcome to KFC. Can I take your order please?  
g: Yes, I would like a bucket of chicken and a bottle of coke.  
w: One bucket of chicken and one bottle of coke. Is that all?  
g: Yes.  
w: Are you eating in or taking away / "[Will that be for here or to go?](http://www.talkenglish.com/LessonDetails.aspx?ALID=415)"  
g: Eating in/ "[For here please.](http://www.talkenglish.com/LessonDetails.aspx?ALID=415)"  
w: That will be ten pounds ninety nine please/ "[The total comes to $3.87.](http://www.talkenglish.com/LessonDetails.aspx?ALID=415)"