



A1 TEENS · FUNCTIONAL ENGLISH · LESSON 18

At the Café *Ordering food & asking the price*

A hot chocolate, a slice of cake, a glass of orange juice. In this lesson you'll learn the polite words you need to order food and drink — "I'd like...", "Can I have...?" and "How much is it?"



45 minutes



CEFR A1



Café & Food

Name: _____ Date: _____

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WARM-UP

Think before you start

Before the lesson, ask yourself...

1. Do you like going to cafés? What do you usually order?

2. What is your favourite drink — hot or cold?

3. How do you ask for something politely in your language?

4. How do you ask the price of something?

Ordering, step by step

The polite way to order: "I'd like..."

I'd like is the short form of I would like. It is a polite way to say I want.

ORDER I'd like a hot chocolate, please.

ORDER I'd like **an** orange juice, please.

ORDER I'd like **some** water, please.

Other useful café phrases

YOU WANT TO...	YOU SAY ...
Order something (polite)	I'd like a sandwich, please .
Order (another polite way)	Can I have a lemonade, please?
Ask the price of one thing	How much is the cake?
Ask the price of many things	How much are the cookies?
Ask for the bill at the end	Can I have the bill , please?
Say thank you / reply	Thank you! — You're welcome .

Be polite — use these words!

I'd like...

Can I have...?

please

thank you

How much...?

You're welcome

Here you are

Talking about prices — pounds (£) & pence (p)

Use "is" for one item and "are" for more than one.

ONE How much **is** the tea? — It **is** £2.

MANY How much **are** the muffins? — They **are** £3.

READ £2.50 = "two pounds fifty" · 80p = "eighty p / eighty pence"

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KEY VOCABULARY

Café words you'll need

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
café <i>noun</i>	a small place where you buy drinks and snacks	<i>We go to a café after school.</i>
order <i>verb / noun</i>	to ask for food or drink in a café	<i>Are you ready to order?</i>
menu <i>noun</i>	a list of the food and drinks you can buy	<i>Can I see the menu, please?</i>
waiter <i>noun</i>	a person who brings your food in a café	<i>The waiter brings our drinks.</i>
drink <i>noun / verb</i>	something you drink, like juice or tea	<i>My favourite drink is hot chocolate.</i>
snack <i>noun</i>	a small amount of food between meals	<i>A muffin is a nice snack.</i>
price <i>noun</i>	how much money something costs	<i>What is the price of the cake?</i>
bill <i>noun</i>	the paper that shows how much you must pay	<i>Can I have the bill, please?</i>
cheap <i>adjective</i>	not expensive; costs little money	<i>The juice is cheap — only £1.</i>
expensive <i>adjective</i>	costs a lot of money	<i>That cake is expensive — £6!</i>

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READING

A Saturday at the Sunny Café

A DAY OUT · ISSUE 18

Two friends, one café: *Leo and Maya order lunch*

A short story with a real café conversation

It's Saturday. Leo and Maya are hungry. They go to the Sunny Café in town. It is their favourite place.

They sit at a table near the window. A friendly waiter comes to the table. "Hello! Are you ready to order?" he asks.

Maya looks at the menu. "Yes, please. I'd like a hot chocolate and a slice of carrot cake," she says.

"And for you?" the waiter asks Leo. "Can I have an orange juice and a cheese sandwich, please?" says Leo. "Of course," says the waiter.

Then comes the question about money

"How much is the carrot cake?" asks Maya. "It's £3," says the waiter. "And the sandwiches?" asks Leo. "They're £4 each." Leo smiles — that's a good price! It isn't expensive.

After lunch, Leo asks for the bill. "That's £14, please," says the waiter. The friends pay and say, "Thank you!" "You're welcome. See you next Saturday!" he says with a smile.

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VOCABULARY CARDS

Review & remember

order

verb / noun

To ask for food or drink in a café.

"I'd like to order a pizza, please."

menu

noun

A list of the food and drinks you can buy.

"The menu is on the table."

price

noun

How much money something costs.

"The price of the tea is £2."

bill

noun

The paper that shows how much you must pay.

"Can I have the bill, please?"

cheap

adjective

Not expensive; costs little money.

"This café is cheap and nice."

expensive

adjective

Costs a lot of money.

"That restaurant is very expensive."

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PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks

🗣️ Complete each café sentence. Write the missing word or words on the line. Be polite!

- 1 I _____ a hot chocolate, please. (*polite: I'd...*)
- 2 _____ I have a lemonade, please? (*another polite way*)
- 3 How much _____ the cake? (*one item*)
- 4 How much _____ the muffins? (*more than one*)
- 5 I'd like _____ orange juice, please. (*a / an?*)
- 6 Thank you! — You're _____. (*polite reply*)
- 7 Can I have the _____, please? (*at the end*)
- 8 The juice is only £1. It's very _____. (*opposite of expensive*)

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SPEAKING

Role-play: at the café

Work with a partner. One is the **waiter**, one is the **customer**. Then swap roles! Use "I'd like...", "Can I have...?" and "How much...?"

🗣️ Waiter: "Hello! Are you ready to order?"

🗣️ Customer: order a drink and a snack ("I'd like...")

🗣️ Customer: ask the price ("How much is...?")

🗣️ Customer: ask for the bill at the end

🗣️ Both: say "thank you" and "you're welcome"

EXAMPLE CONVERSATION

Waiter: Hello! Are you ready to order?

You: Yes, please. I'd like a hot chocolate and a muffin.

Waiter: Of course. Anything else?

You: How much is the muffin?

Waiter: It's £2. Here you are!

You: Thank you! — **Waiter:** You're welcome!

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WRITING

Your own café order

Write a short café conversation (50–70 words)

Write a conversation between a **waiter** and a **customer**. Use the café phrases from this lesson. Remember to:

- use "I'd like..." OR "Can I have...?" to order
- order at least one drink AND one snack
- ask a price with "How much is/are...?"
- be polite — use *please* and *thank you*

Check your understanding

Tick (✓) the correct answer for each question.

1. What is the polite way to order in a café?

- A I want a tea.
- B Give me a tea.
- C I'd like a tea, please.
- D Tea now.

2. Choose the correct question for ONE cake:

- A How much are the cake?
- B How much is the cake?
- C How many is the cake?
- D How much the cake?

3. Choose the correct question for TWO muffins:

- A How much is the muffins?
- B How much are the muffins?
- C How much be the muffins?
- D How many are the muffin?

4. Complete: I'd like ___ orange juice, please.

- A a
- B an
- C some
- D the

5. What do you say at the END to pay?

- A Can I have the menu?
- B Can I have the bill, please?
- C Are you ready to order?
- D Here you are.

6. Someone says 'Thank you!' What is the polite reply?

- A No problem, go away.
- B You're welcome.
- C I want more.
- D How much?

7. The juice costs only £1. It is...

- A expensive
- B cheap
- C a menu
- D a waiter

8. How do you read the price £2.50?

- A two pounds fifty
- B two fifty pounds
- C twenty-five pounds
- D two pounds five



Answer Key

Part 6 — Fill in the blanks

1. would like (I'd like) 2. Can 3. is 4. are
5. an 6. welcome 7. bill 8. cheap

Part 9 — Quiz

1. **C** — I'd like a tea, please (the polite way; 'I want' is not polite)
2. **B** — How much is the cake? (one item = is)
3. **B** — How much are the muffins? (more than one = are)
4. **B** — an orange juice (vowel sound = an)
5. **B** — Can I have the bill, please? (the bill = what you pay)
6. **B** — You're welcome (polite reply to thanks)
7. **B** — cheap (only £1 = not a lot of money)
8. **A** — two pounds fifty (£2.50)