



Armando is a waiter. He works in a busy Mexican restaurant. The menu has many different combination plates. The menu also says, "NO SUBSTITUTIONS, PLEASE." You can't have chicken instead of beef. You can't have potatoes instead of rice.

This afternoon, a man comes in. Armando goes to his table. "I want the number 7," says the man. "But I don't want a bean burrito. I want a fish burrito."

"Sorry," says Armando. "There are no substitutions. You can have a fish burrito with the number 12."

Later, a woman comes in. "I want the number 3," she says. "But I don't want rice. I want vegetables."

"Sorry," says Armando. "There are no substitutions. The number 11 comes with vegetables."

At 4:30 P.M., Armando takes a dinner break. He walks into the kitchen. Armando sees the cook, Felipe. Armando says, "People always want substitutions. I'm tired of it!"

"Well," says Felipe, "maybe people don't read the menu. Are you hungry?"

"Yes," says Armando. "I want the number 6, please. But I don't want chicken. I want beef."



Check (✓) Yes or No.

Yes No

- | | | |
|-------|-------|--|
| _____ | _____ | 1. Armando is a cook. |
| _____ | _____ | 2. He works in a busy Mexican restaurant. |
| _____ | _____ | 3. The menu says, "NO SUBSTITUTIONS, PLEASE." |
| _____ | _____ | 4. You can have chicken instead of beef. |
| _____ | _____ | 5. A man wants the number 7 with a fish burrito. |
| _____ | _____ | 6. "Sorry," says Armando. "There are no substitutions." |
| _____ | _____ | 7. A woman doesn't want vegetables. She wants rice. |
| _____ | _____ | 8. At 5:30 P.M., Armando takes a dinner break. |
| _____ | _____ | 9. Armando is hungry. |
| _____ | _____ | 10. He wants the number 6. But he wants beef instead of chicken. |

Complete the sentences.

wants

comes

takes

works

has

says

is

doesn't want

1. Armando _____ a waiter.
2. He _____ in a busy Mexican restaurant.
3. The menu _____ many different combination plates.
4. This afternoon, a man _____ in.
5. He doesn't want a bean burrito. He _____ a fish burrito.
6. "Sorry," _____ Armando. "There are no substitutions."
7. At 4:30 P.M., Armando _____ a dinner break.
8. Armando _____ chicken. He wants beef.

Match the meanings.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ___ 1. cook | a. a place to eat |
| ___ 2. menu | b. a meal with different foods |
| ___ 3. break | c. a person who serves food |
| ___ 4. combination plate | d. a list of food you can order |
| ___ 5. waiter | e. a time you are not working |
| ___ 6. restaurant | f. a person who prepares food |

Conversation in a Restaurant

Practice the dialog with a partner.

- A. Are you ready to order?**
B. Yes, please. I want the number 7.
A. The number 7? Sure.
B. But I don't want a bean burrito. I want a fish burrito.
A. Sorry. There are no substitutions.
B. But I want a fish burrito.
A. You can have a fish burrito with the number 12.
B. Okay. I want a number 12.



Check the good ideas.

A customer wants the number 5. But he wants a beef burrito instead of a chicken burrito.

Check (✓) the things that are good for Armando to say to the customer. Write other ideas on the lines below.

_____ "Sorry. There are no substitutions."

_____ "Read the menu!"

_____ "You can have a beef burrito with the number 8."

_____ "Chicken is better for you."

_____ "People always want substitutions. I'm tired of it!"

What about you?

Circle Yes or No. Then write questions and ask your partner.

Yes No 1. I work in a restaurant.

Do you work in a restaurant?

Yes No 2. I sometimes eat in a Mexican restaurant.

Yes No 3. I read menus carefully.

Yes No 4. I sometimes ask for substitutions in restaurants.

Yes No 5. I take a dinner break at work.

Talking/Writing About It

1. Do you sometimes go to a restaurant? If yes, what kind of food does it serve?
2. Do you like Mexican food? If yes, what is your favorite Mexican food?
3. Are you tired of something at work? If yes, what is it?