

Booking a table

Listen to someone booking a table in a restaurant to practise and improve your listening skills.

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Put the times in the correct group.

Half past eight	Half eight	Eight
Eight thirty	Eight o'clock	Seven thirty

7.30	8.00	8.30

Tasks

Task 1

Choose the best answer.

- When is the table booked for?
 - Tonight
 - Tomorrow morning
 - Tomorrow night
- When the woman says, 'About eight, eight thirty', what does she mean?
 - At eight o'clock
 - At half past eight
 - Between eight o'clock and half past eight

3. What time is the first booking?
 - a. 7.30
 - b. 8.30
 - c. 9.00
4. How do you spell the person's name?
 - a. Jamei
 - b. Jamie
 - c. Janie
5. Where will the table be now?
 - a. By the door
 - b. Close to the kitchen
 - c. In the corner
6. What time is the new booking?
 - a. 6.00
 - b. 7.30
 - c. 8.00

Task 2

Write a number (1–6) to put the questions in the same order as the telephone calls.

- _____ Is it possible to change the time?
- _____ What time would you like?
- _____ How many people is it for?
- _____ Can I make it for six people?
- _____ Can I book a table for tomorrow night?
- _____ Is eight OK for you?

Discussion

What's your favourite kind of restaurant?

Transcript

Staff: Hello, Gino's.

Jamie: Hi. Can I book a table for tomorrow night, please?

Staff: How many people is it for?

Jamie: Four.

Staff: And what time would you like?

Jamie: About eight, eight thirty, please?

Staff: Let's see ... We're pretty busy tomorrow, so I can do half past seven, or nine.

Jamie: Oh. OK, then. Half seven, please.

Staff: And what name is it?

Jamie: Jamie.

Staff: J-A- ...?

Jamie: M-I-E

Staff: OK, so that's a table for four at half past seven tomorrow evening.

Jamie: Great. Thanks! Bye.

Staff: Bye.

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Staff: Hello, Gino's.

Jamie: Hi, I called earlier to book a table for four and I was wondering if I can make it for six instead?

Staff: What name was it?

Jamie: It's Jamie.

Staff: Table for four. At half past seven. So you want to change it to six o'clock?

Jamie: No, sorry. Can I make it for six people?

Staff: Oh, I see. Sorry! That shouldn't be a problem. I can move you to a bigger table but it will be nearer the kitchen. Is that OK?

Jamie: No problem. Is it possible to change the time as well? Make it a little bit later?

Staff: Ah ... yeah, we can. Is eight OK for you?

Jamie: Perfect, thanks!

Staff: Lovely. See you tomorrow, then.

Jamie: Thanks! Bye!

Answers

Preparation task

7.30	8.00	8.30
Seven thirty	Eight Eight o'clock	Eight thirty Half past eight Half eight

Task 1

1. c
2. c
3. a
4. b
5. b
6. c

Task 2

1. Can I book a table for tomorrow night?
2. How many people is it for?
3. What time would you like?
4. Can I make it for six people?
5. Is it possible to change the time?
6. Is eight OK for you?