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Level 3

Better tables for beautiful people in Paris restaurants

10th November, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Two trendy restaurants in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people. This is according to staff who used to work at the two eateries. The former employees told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' seating policy. They said: "The good-looking customers are led to the good places, where they can be easily seen; the non-good-looking ones must be seated in the corners of the room." This rule did not apply to celebrity diners. The rule for them was that, "pretty or ugly, old or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed based on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 need not apply."

The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good image by seating attractive guests in easy-to-see places. They said the restaurants' owner would visit regularly to make sure his 'beauty policy' was working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table, he would tell the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them here; there are bad-looking people, you put them there." Furthermore, staff could not promise to give a table to customers who telephoned to make a booking, just in case they were not beautiful. Staff only decided where to seat them after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces.

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/10431535/French-restaurants-where-your-looks-decide-your-seat.html>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2489691/French-restaurant-group-seat-guests-according-good-looking-are.html#ixzz2k2JRtvvP>

WARM-UPS

1. RESTAURANT TABLES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about restaurant tables. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

trendy / restaurants / good-looking people / seating policy / celebrities / physique / staff / beauty / regularly / promise / customers / telephoned / booking / faces

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. DINERS: You are a restaurant manager. What do you do about these customers? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Diners who...	What do you do?	Has this been you?
are very noisy		
just got engaged		
forgot their money		
are kissing too much		
complain non-stop		
want bigger portions		

4. GOOD-LOOKING: Students A **strongly** believe good-looking people have a better life; Students B **strongly** disagree. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. RESTAURANT: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most important things at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- atmosphere
- wide menu choice
- food comes quickly
- very friendly wait staff
- manager says hello
- good music
- delicious food
- price

6. TRENDY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "trendy". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Most restaurants in Paris seat attractive diners at good tables. T / F
- b. Staff at two restaurants refused to talk to a Parisian newspaper. T / F
- c. Old celebrities at two Paris restaurants are given good tables. T / F
- d. You cannot become a waiter at the two restaurants if you are aged 32. T / F
- e. The restaurant put good-looking people in seats others could see them. T / F
- f. The owner of the restaurants rarely visited them. T / F
- g. It is easy to book your favourite table at the restaurants by telephone. T / F
- h. Staff seated people who booked by phone after looking at their faces. T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. trendy | a. body |
| 2. good-looking | b. certain |
| 3. former | c. reservation |
| 4. policy | d. ex- |
| 5. physique | e. fashionable |
| 6. sure | f. place |
| 7. regularly | g. system |
| 8. furthermore | h. frequently |
| 9. booking | i. in addition |
| 10. seat (verb) | j. attractive |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. This is according | a. on looks |
| 2. The good-looking customers are led | b. in easy-to-see places |
| 3. This rule did not | c. had a good image |
| 4. waitresses were employed based | d. a table to customers |
| 5. a model's | e. apply to celebrity diners |
| 6. make sure the restaurant | f. to make a booking |
| 7. seating attractive guests | g. to staff |
| 8. promise to give | h. physique |
| 9. customers who telephoned | i. seat them |
| 10. decided where to | j. to the good places |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Two (1) _____ restaurants in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people. This is (2) _____ to staff who used to work at the two eateries. The (3) _____ employees told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' (4) _____ policy. They said: "The good-looking customers are led to the good places, where they can be (5) _____ seen; the non-good-looking ones must be seated in the corners of the room." This rule did not apply to (6) _____ diners. The rule for them was that, "pretty or ugly, old or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed (7) _____ on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 need not (8) _____."

easily
based
according
apply
former
trendy
celebrity
seating

The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good (9) _____ by seating attractive guests in easy-to-see (10) _____. They said the restaurants' owner would visit (11) _____ to make sure his 'beauty (12) _____' was working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table, he would tell the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them here; there are (13) _____ -looking people, you put them there." Furthermore, staff could not (14) _____ to give a table to customers who telephoned to make a (15) _____, just in case they were not beautiful. Staff only decided where to (16) _____ them after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces.

bad
places
booking
promise
image
regularly
seat
policy

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

- 1) The former employees told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' _____
 - a. seat in policy
 - b. seating policy
 - c. sea tin policy
 - d. see thing policy
- 2) The good-looking customers are led to the good places, where they _____
 - a. can be easily seen
 - b. can be easy to be seen
 - c. can be easier seen
 - d. can be easiest seen
- 3) This rule did not apply to _____
 - a. celebrity dinners
 - b. celebrity dine us
 - c. celebrity dines are
 - d. celebrity diners
- 4) Even the waiters and waitresses were employed _____
 - a. based on lookers
 - b. based on locks
 - c. based on looks
 - d. based on look is
- 5) Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 _____
 - a. need not apple pie
 - b. need not app
 - c. need not application
 - d. need not apply
- 6) the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant _____
 - a. had a good image
 - b. had a good images
 - c. had a goody image
 - d. had a goodly image
- 7) They said the restaurants' owner would _____
 - a. visit regular
 - b. visit regularly
 - c. visit irregularly
 - d. visit irregular
- 8) make sure his 'beauty policy' _____
 - a. was work in
 - b. was worked in
 - c. was working in
 - d. was working
- 9) give a table to customers who telephoned to _____
 - a. make a book in
 - b. make a book king
 - c. make a booking
 - d. make a bookings
- 10) Staff only decided where to seat them after they came to the restaurant and _____
 - a. looked at them faces
 - b. looked at they're faces
 - c. looked at they faces
 - d. looked at their faces

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

(1) _____ in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people. (2) _____ staff who used to work at the two eateries. The former employees told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' seating policy. They said: "The good-looking customers (3) _____ places, where they can be easily seen; the non-good-looking ones must (4) _____ corners of the room." This rule did not apply to celebrity diners. The rule for them was that, "(5) _____ or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed based on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without (6) _____ and over 30 need not apply."

The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant (7) _____ by seating attractive guests in easy-to-see places. They said the restaurants' owner (8) _____ to make sure (9) _____ was working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table, he would tell the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them here; there are bad-looking people, you put them there." Furthermore, (10) _____ to give a table to customers who telephoned (11) _____, just in case they were not beautiful. Staff only decided (12) _____ after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

1. Who told a newspaper about the good-looking-people story?

2. Where is the newspaper based?

3. Where are the not-so-good-looking diners seated?

4. To whom did the "not-so-good-looking-diner rule" apply?

5. How old must you be to apply for a job at the restaurants?

6. What did the restaurants' owners want to make certain of?

7. How often would one of the owners visit?

8. What could staff not promise over the phone?

9. Why could the staff not make promises?

10. When did staff decide where to seat customers?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

1. Who told a newspaper about the good-looking-people story?
 - a) former staff
 - b) customers
 - c) journalists
 - d) the restaurants' owners
2. Where is the newspaper based?
 - a) online
 - b) in the restaurants
 - c) Paris
 - d) Geneva
3. Where are the not-so-good-looking diners seated?
 - a) upstairs
 - b) in the corners
 - c) in the kitchen
 - d) outside
4. To whom did the "not-so-good-looking-diner rule" apply?
 - a) the owners
 - b) teenagers
 - c) journalists
 - d) celebrities
5. How old must you be to apply for a job at the restaurants?
 - a) 30 or under
 - b) 30
 - c) in your 20s or 30s
 - d) over 30
6. What did the restaurants' owners want to make certain of?
 - a) the decor
 - b) the taste of the food
 - c) the ambience
 - d) the restaurants' image
7. How often would one of the owners visit?
 - a) once in a blue moon
 - b) frequently
 - c) when celebrities came
 - d) every July 14
8. What could staff not promise over the phone?
 - a) the menu
 - b) the price of the food
 - c) that a celebrity would be there
 - d) which table
9. Why could the staff not make promises?
 - a) celebrities might drop in
 - b) they didn't cook the food
 - c) in case the caller wasn't attractive
 - d) the computer broke
10. When did staff decide where to seat customers?
 - a) when the owner arrived
 - b) after they looked at them
 - c) at 7pm
 - d) the morning of the booking

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ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Role A – Atmosphere

You think the atmosphere is the most important thing when eating at a restaurant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a wide menu choice, food coming quickly or the manager greeting you.

Role B – Wide menu choice

You think a wide menu choice is the most important thing when eating at a restaurant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the atmosphere, food coming quickly or the manager greeting you.

Role C – Food comes quickly

You think food coming quickly is the most important thing when eating at a restaurant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a wide menu choice, the atmosphere or the manager greeting you.

Role D – Manager says hello

You think the manager greeting you is the most important thing when eating at a restaurant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a wide menu choice, food coming quickly or the atmosphere.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'restaurant' and 'table'.

restaurant	table
-------------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• trendy• used to• led• rule• looks• 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sure• regularly• if• promise• case• after
--	--

RESTAURANT TABLES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Write five GOOD questions about restaurant tables in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

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RESTAURANT TABLES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'good-looking'?
- c) Do you often go to trendy restaurants?
- d) How does a restaurant become trendy?
- e) What do you think of the restaurants' seating policy?
- f) Will you wonder if the wait staff showed you to a table in the corner?
- g) Will you think about your table next time you go to a restaurant?
- h) Would you ask to sit at a good table?
- i) Do you want to test your beauty by visiting the restaurants?
- j) Is it OK to hire staff based on looks?

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RESTAURANT TABLES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What do you think about what you read?
- c) Is it a good idea to put the beautiful people where they can be seen?
- d) What happens to a group if half are beautiful and half are not?
- e) What would you like to tell the owners?
- f) Do you have a favourite table at a restaurant?
- g) How important is it to choose your table in a restaurant?
- h) Is the world going image / good-looking crazy?
- i) What questions would you like to ask the restaurants' owners?
- j) What do you think their answers might be?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Two (1) _____ restaurants in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people. This is according (2) _____ staff who used to work at the two eateries. The former employees told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' (3) _____ policy. They said: "The good-looking customers are led to the good places, where they can be easily (4) _____; the non-good-looking ones must be seated in the corners of the room." This rule did not (5) _____ to celebrity diners. The rule for them was that, "pretty or ugly, old or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed (6) _____ on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 need not apply."

The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good image (7) _____ seating attractive guests in easy-to-see places. They said the restaurants' owner would visit (8) _____ to make sure his 'beauty policy' was working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table, he would (9) _____ the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them here; there are bad-looking people, you put them there." Furthermore, staff could not promise to give a table to customers who telephoned to make a (10) _____, just in (11) _____ they were not beautiful. Staff only decided where to (12) _____ them after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) trend | (b) trending | (c) trendy | (d) trendsetter |
| 2. | (a) to | (b) by | (c) of | (d) at |
| 3. | (a) seating | (b) seats | (c) sitting | (d) sit-in |
| 4. | (a) seen | (b) seeing | (c) scene | (d) sheen |
| 5. | (a) reply | (b) apply | (c) comply | (d) imply |
| 6. | (a) cased | (b) eased | (c) laced | (d) based |
| 7. | (a) to | (b) so | (c) by | (d) as |
| 8. | (a) regularity | (b) regulars | (c) regular | (d) regularly |
| 9. | (a) tell | (b) shout | (c) whisper | (d) say |
| 10. | (a) looking | (b) booking | (c) hooking | (d) cooking |
| 11. | (a) bag | (b) case | (c) box | (d) carton |
| 12. | (a) cook | (b) look | (c) seat | (d) menu |

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SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Two ndyter restaurants
2. This is ardgoncic to staff
3. former oyseeelmp
4. This rule did not lapyp
5. yritbeelc diners
6. a model's hspyieug

Paragraph 2

7. araectvtti guests
8. visit lalrgeuyr
9. beauty loipyc
10. staff could not rspomei
11. make a kongboi
12. just in case they were not tbfeuulia

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () seat them after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces.
- () led to the good places, where they can be easily seen; the non-good-looking ones must be seated in
- () The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good image by
- () on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 need not apply."
- () the corners of the room." This rule did not apply to celebrity diners. The rule for them was that,
- () at a good table, he would tell the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them
- () a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' seating policy. They said: "The good-looking customers are
- () here; there are bad-looking people, you put them there." Furthermore, staff could not promise to give a table to customers
- () looking people. This is according to staff who used to work at the two eateries. The former employees told
- () regularly to make sure his 'beauty policy' was working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like
- () who telephoned to make a booking, just in case they were not beautiful. Staff only decided where to
- (**1**) Two trendy restaurants in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-
- () seating attractive guests in easy-to-see places. They said the restaurants' owner would visit
- () "pretty or ugly, old or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed based

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

1. to used who staff to According eateries two the at work.

2. former The newspaper Parisian a told employees.

3. looking - good The places good the to led are customers.

4. diners not apply This to rule celebrity did.

5. employed Waiters based and on waitresses looks were.

6. restaurant good To the a sure had image make.

7. attractive guests in easy - to - see places Seating.

8. a make to telephoned who Customers booking.

9. were they case in Just beautiful not.

10. them seat to where decided only Staff.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Two *trendy / trending* restaurants in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people. This is according *by / to* staff who used to work at the two *cafeterias / eateries*. The former employees told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' *seating / sitting* policy. They said: "The good-looking customers are *fed / led* to the good places, where they can be easily *seeing / seen*; the non-good-looking ones must be seated in the corners *of / on* the room." This rule did not *reply / apply* to celebrity diners. The rule for them was that, "pretty or ugly, old or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed *basted / based* on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 need *not / non* apply."

The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good image by seating *attractiveness / attractive* guests in easy-to-see places. They said the restaurants' owner would visit *regular / regularly* to make sure his 'beauty policy' *was / wasn't* working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table, he would *say / tell* the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them here; there are bad-looking people, you put *him / them* there." Furthermore, staff could not *promise / promises* to give a table to customers who telephoning / telephoned to make a booking, just *in / on* case they were not beautiful. Staff only decided where to *suit / seat* them after they came to the restaurant and *looked / checked* at their faces.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Tw__ tr__ndy r__st__r__nts __n P__r__s g__v__ g__d-l__k__ng
p__pl__ b__tt__r t__bl__s th__n n__t-s__-g__d-l__k__ng p__pl__.
Th__s__s__cc__rd__ng t__st__ff wh__s__d t__w__rk__t th__tw__
__t__r__s. Th__f__rm__r__m__pl__y__s__t__ld__P__r__s__n
n__wsp__p__r__b__t th__r__st__r__nts' s__t__ng p__l__cy. Th__y
s__d: "Th__g__d-l__k__ng c__st__m__rs__r__ld__t__th__
g__d__pl__c__s, wh__r__th__y c__n b__s__ly s__n; th__n__n__
g__d-l__k__ng__n__s__m__st b__s__t__d__n th__c__rn__rs__f
th__r__m__." Th__s__r__ld__d__n__t__p__ply__t__c__l__br__ty
d__n__rs. Th__r__l__f__r th__m w__s th__t, "pr__tty__r__gly, __ld
__r__y__ng," th__y g__t th__g__d__t__bl__s. __v__n th__w__t__rs
__nd w__tr__ss__s w__r__m__pl__y__d__b__s__d__n__l__ks. __n__
__x__w__tr__ss__s__d: "__ny__n__sh__rt, w__th__t__m__d__l's
phys__q__nd__v__r 30 n__d__n__t__p__ply."

Th__x__st__ff__m__mb__rs__s__d th__r__st__r__nt__wn__rs
w__nt__d__t__m__k__s__r__th__r__st__r__nt h__d__g__d__m__g__
by s__t__ng__t__tr__ct__v__g__sts__n__sy__t__s__pl__c__s.
Th__y__s__d th__r__st__r__nts'__wn__r w__ld v__s__t__r__g__l__rly
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PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

two trendy restaurants in paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people this is according to staff who used to work at the two eateries the former employees told a parisian newspaper about the restaurants' seating policy they said "the good-looking customers are led to the good places where they can be easily seen the non-good-looking ones must be seated in the corners of the room" this rule did not apply to celebrity diners the rule for them was that "pretty or ugly old or young" they got the good tables even the waiters and waitresses were employed based on looks one ex-waitress said "anyone short without a model's physique and over 30 need not apply"

the ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good image by seating attractive guests in easy-to-see places they said the restaurants' owner would visit regularly to make sure his 'beauty policy' was working if he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table he would tell the staff "there are good-looking people you put them here there are bad-looking people you put them there" furthermore staff could not promise to give a table to customers who telephoned to make a booking just in case they were not beautiful staff only decided where to seat them after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1311/131110-french-restaurants.html>

Two trendy restaurants in Paris give good-looking people better tables than not-so-good-looking people. This is according to staff who used to work at the two eateries. The former employee told a Parisian newspaper about the restaurants' seating policy. They said: "The good-looking customers are led to the good places, where they can be easily seen; the non-good-looking ones must be seated in the corners of the room." This rule did not apply to celebrity diners. The rule for them was that, "pretty or ugly, old or young," they got the good tables. Even the waiters and waitresses were employed based on looks. One ex-waitress said: "Anyone short, without a model's physique and over 30 need not apply." The ex-staff members said the restaurant owners wanted to make sure the restaurant had a good image by seating attractive guests in easy-to-see places. They said the restaurants' owner would visit regularly to make sure his 'beauty policy' was working. If he saw someone whose face he didn't like at a good table, he would tell the staff: "There are good-looking people, you put them here; there are bad-looking people, you put them there." Furthermore, staff could not promise to give a table to customers who telephoned to make a booking, just in case they were not beautiful. Staff only decided where to seat them after they came to the restaurant and looked at their faces.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about French restaurants. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. RESTAURANT TABLES: Make a poster about restaurant tables. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. GOOD LOOKING: Write a magazine article about this story. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against the idea of seating good-looking people where others can see them.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to the restaurant owner. Ask him three questions about his seating policy. Give him three ideas to make "normal-looking" diners happy. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b F c T d T e T f F g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. trendy | a. fashionable |
| 2. good-looking | b. attractive |
| 3. former | c. ex- |
| 4. policy | d. system |
| 5. physique | e. body |
| 6. sure | f. certain |
| 7. regularly | g. frequently |
| 8. furthermore | h. in addition |
| 9. booking | i. reservation |
| 10. seat (verb) | j. place |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Former employees / ex-staff
2. Paris
3. In the corners of the restaurant
4. Celebrities
5. 30 and under
6. The restaurants' good image
7. Regularly
8. Which table the caller would get
9. Just in case the customer wasn't good looking
10. After looking at them

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)