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Level 2

Japanese tourists call police over rip-off restaurant bill

24th January, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180124-rip-off-restaurant-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180124-rip-off-restaurant-2.html>

Four Japanese tourists are angry after a restaurant in Venice, Italy charged them \$1,350 for a steak dinner. The four tourists say they were ripped off (overcharged) for the meal. They were students on a day trip to Venice. They decided to have dinner at a restaurant near the world-famous St Mark's Square on Friday. The police and Venice's mayor are looking into this incident. The mayor promised to take action. He said: "If this disgraceful episode is confirmed, we'll do all we can to punish those responsible. We are for justice - always."

It is common for tourists to be overcharged. Venice residents are worried about what happened to the Japanese tourists. There have been many similar cases recently in Venice. Some residents tweeted: "Whoever puts the good name of Venice at risk, harms all Venetians." The restaurant has a low 1.5 (out of 5) rating on the website TripAdvisor.com. Around 83 per cent of visitors gave it a "Terrible" rating. One person complained that: "The food was very average....They added almost \$60 in taxes and a tip - these are the hidden fees....And the service wasn't that good. I feel scammed."

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/venice-restaurant-bill-charge-meal-tourists-police-osteria-da-luca-st-marks-square-a8172426.html>
<http://www.euronews.com/2018/01/22/venice-s-mayor-pledges-action-over-1-100-dinner-bill>
<http://metro.co.uk/2018/01/22/students-rang-police-given-1000-bill-restaurant-venice-7250997/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180124-rip-off-restaurant-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. charged them \$1,350 | a. we can |
| 2. they were ripped off | b. trip |
| 3. They were students on a day | c. (overcharged) |
| 4. near the world-famous | d. justice |
| 5. looking into | e. for a steak dinner |
| 6. The mayor promised | f. St Mark's Square |
| 7. we'll do all | g. to take action |
| 8. We are for | h. this incident |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. It is common for tourists | a. good |
| 2. worried about | b. Venice at risk |
| 3. There have been many similar | c. scammed |
| 4. puts the good name of | d. to be overcharged |
| 5. The food | e. and a tip |
| 6. almost \$60 in taxes | f. cases |
| 7. And the service wasn't that | g. what happened |
| 8. I feel | h. was very average |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180124-rip-off-restaurant-2.html>

Four Japanese tourists (1) _____ a restaurant in Venice, Italy (2) _____ \$1,350 for a steak dinner. The four tourists say they were (3) _____ (overcharged) for the meal. They were students on a day trip to Venice. They (4) _____ dinner at a restaurant near the world-famous St Mark's Square on Friday. The police and Venice's mayor are looking into this incident. The mayor promised (5) _____. He said: "If this disgraceful episode is confirmed, we'll do all we can to punish those responsible. We (6) _____ - always."

It (7) _____ tourists to be overcharged. Venice residents are worried about what happened to the Japanese tourists. There have been (8) _____ recently in Venice. Some residents tweeted: "Whoever puts the good name of Venice at (9) _____ Venetians." The restaurant has a low 1.5 (out of 5) rating on the website TripAdvisor.com. Around 83 per cent of visitors gave it (10) _____. One person complained that: "The food (11) _____....They added almost \$60 in taxes and a tip - these are (12) _____....And the service wasn't that good. I feel scammed."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180124-rip-off-restaurant-2.html>

Four Japanese tourists are angry after a restaurant in Venice, Italy charged them \$1,350 for a steak dinner. The four tourists say they were ripped off (overcharged) for the meal. They were students on a day trip to Venice. They decided to have dinner at a restaurant near the world-famous St Mark's Square on Friday. The police and Venice's mayor are looking into the incident. The mayor promised to take action. He said: "If this disgraceful episode is confirmed, we'll do all we can to punish those responsible. We are for justice - always." It is common for tourists to be overcharged. Venice residents are worried about what happened to the Japanese tourists. There have been many similar cases recently in Venice. Some residents tweeted: "Whoever puts the good name of Venice at risk harms all Venetians." The restaurant has a low 1.5 (out of 5) rating on the website TripAdvisor.com. Around 83 percent of visitors gave it a "Terrible" rating. One person complained that: "The food was very average.... They added almost \$60 in taxes and a tip - these are the hidden fees.... And the service wasn't that good. I feel scammed."

RIP-OFF PRICES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180124-rip-off-restaurant-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Rip-off prices 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

