**I**

**Unit 2**

**Types of Restaurants**

**Reading**

##### Read the text describing the main kinds of restaurants in the United States. Use the information to complete the table after the text.

**Types of Restaurants**

Millions of people who **“eat out”** every day have different needs and tastes, from a quick lunch to a luxurious meal with elaborate service. Because of these differences there are many kinds of restaurants, from street stands for a hot dog or a bowl of noodles to elaborate restaurants with the best cooking. Restaurants generally fit into the following categories:

**The gourmet restaurant:** A gourmet is a person who appreciates the best in food and drink. A restaurant which offers such meals is the gourmet restaurant. The service is the best and the prices are usually the highest so that these restaurants are the most expensive and luxurious.

**The family-type restaurant:** Many eating places serve simple food at moderate prices that appeal to family groups. Perhaps their main feature is the reliability: they offer their customers standardized food and service. When a family stops on a highway in the United States to eat at a Howard Johnson restaurant they know what kind of food they will get and what the price will be.

**The specialty restaurant:** This kind of restaurant offers a limited variety or style of food. It may specialize in steaks or in a particular kind of national food. Sometimes the atmosphere, decor, or personality of the owner may attract customers. Both the quality of the food and the prices are usually between those of the gourmet and family-type restaurants.

**The convenience restaurant:** This restaurant serves customers who want to eat in a hurry and are most interested in fast service, cleanliness, and low price. This is a very large group of restaurants. One of these is the **lunch counter** which usually serves sandwiches and other simple foods and beverages. A modern variation on the lunch counter is the **fast food** restaurant. Now there are thousands of such restaurants all over the world. Fast foods are those which can be prepared, served, and eaten quickly; probably the most typical fast food is the hamburger, a grilled patty of ground beef served between the slices of a round roll. **Street stands** are also convenience foodservices. They offer a wide variety of dishes to large numbers of people or only snacks for tourists.

The Language of Restaurants and Catering in English (slightly abridged and simplified)

Fill in the table form the information from the text

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The kind of restaurant | clientele | food | service | prices |
|  |  |  |  |  |