

# The Office Happy Hour

Ordering drinks and managing a round at a pub

## PART 01 Warm-Up Activity

- How often do you go to bars or pubs with friends or colleagues?
- In your country, is it common to buy "rounds" (one person buys drinks for everyone, then the next person buys the next set)?
- What is your favorite drink to order when you are out?

## PART 02 The Scenario

You are out with three colleagues for a "Happy Hour" drink after work. One person has volunteered to buy the first round, but the pub is very busy and the menu is limited. You need to decide what to order based on everyone's preferences and the bartender's availability.

### The Pub Menu:

- **On Tap:** Premium Lager, Local Ale, Cider.
- **Bottled:** Alcohol-free lager, Sparkling water.
- **Spirits:** Gin, Vodka, Whiskey (Mixers: Tonic, Lemonade, Coke).
- **Specialties:** House Red/White Wine, Fruit Mocktail.
- **Note:** The kitchen is closed, so no food is available.

### THE TASK & GOAL

Successfully order a round of drinks that satisfies everyone in the group before the bartender calls "last orders."

1. Discuss with your group what everyone wants to drink based on your role cards.
2. Choose one person to go to the bar and interact with the bartender.
3. Handle any "out of stock" issues by asking for recommendations.
4. Confirm the total and how to pay.

### ROLES & PERSPECTIVES

#### A: THE BUYER

It is your round. You want a gin and tonic with ice and lemon. You have a £30 limit for the whole group. You must find out if you pay at the bar or at the table.

#### B: THE COLLEAGUE

You are driving, so you cannot have alcohol. You want something refreshing but not just water. You hate sugary sodas.

#### C: THE BARTENDER

The "Premium Lager" tap is broken. You are out of white wine. You are about to announce "last orders" in two minutes. You must offer alternatives (e.g., bottled lager or red wine).

#### D: THE PICKY COLLEAGUE

You want a dry white wine. If they don't have that, ask what lagers they have on tap. You also want to see a bar menu to check for snacks.

**REFERENCE** Useful Language

ASKING FOR DRINKS	CLARIFYING & RECOMMENDATIONS	BAR PHRASES
Can I get a...?	What do you recommend?	It's my round!
Have you got any...?	What soft drinks are there?	Last orders, please!
Do you serve...?	Is there ice and lemon with that?	Do we pay at the bar?

**PLANNING & NOTES**

*Plan your dialogue here*

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**PART 03** Reflection

1. Did the "Buyer" manage to stay under the £30 budget?
2. How did the group react when their first choice of drink was unavailable?

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# The Office Happy Hour

Target language practice.

## ⌚ TIME

30 MINS

## 📋 OBJECTIVE

To practice ordering multiple drinks, offering alternatives, and using common pub social phrases in a high-pressure (simulated) environment.

## 📖 GRAMMAR FOCUS

### POLITE REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

- Can I get two gin and tonics, please?
- What lagers have you got on tap?
- Do you serve mocktails?

## 🗉 KEY VOCABULARY

ON TAP

IT'S MY ROUND

LAST ORDERS

MOCKTAIL

SPIRITS

## Procedure

1. **Warmer (5 mins):** Use the warm-up questions to elicit pub culture. Introduce the concept of "buying a round" if students are unfamiliar with it.
2. **The Task (15 mins):**
  - Divide students into groups of 3 or 4.
  - Assign roles. Ensure the "Bartender" understands they need to create a small obstacle (e.g., being out of a specific drink).
  - Monitor the groups as they negotiate their order and then "perform" the bar interaction.
3. **Feedback (10 mins):**
  - Ask the "Buyers" if they were successful.
  - Correct any common errors, specifically focusing on the difference between "Can I have..." and "Can I get..." (as noted in the source text).
  - Highlight the use of "the same again" if a second round was discussed.