

Sensory Language

A place is more than what you can **SEE**. Keep your mind open and try to **HEAR**, **SMELL**, **TASTE** and **FEEL** it.

Topic

You finally got the chance to eat at Hong Kong's hottest new restaurant, *Dim Sum One*. Write a review for *Eat & Drink*, an online food guide that allows users to write their own reviews.

- Write about what you liked, what you didn't like and if you would recommend this restaurant.
- You can choose to write about any of the following in your review.



Food



Service



Dining environment



Price

Eat & Drink

Name: Dim Sum One

Type of Cuisine: Chinese dim sum

Best for: Children/Family Romantic Date Business Special Occasions

Writing topic taken from Paper 2 of the 2020 HKDSE English Language Examination ©HKEAA

Task 1: Complete the bubbles below with words to describe what you could **see**, **hear**, **smell**, **taste** and **feel** at *Dim Sum One*.

See (Eye icon)

- décor, colour of furniture, food presentation
- a **brightly-lit** dining hall with **flaming red** lanterns
- **freshly-fried golden brown** crab cakes
- the restaurant was **jam-packed** with people
- a **charred** pork chop

Smell (Nose icon)

smell of food and drinks

- **fruity, garlicky, lemony, minty, peppery, smoky**
- The food/drinks smelt **aromatic/fragrant/refreshing**.
- The food/drinks had a/an **pungent/revolting/rancid/unpleasant** smell.

Taste (Tongue icon)

taste and flavour of food and drinks

- **bitter, mellow, savoury, spicy, tangy, tart**
- the **briny tang/flavour** of the scallops
- the **winey taste** of the drunken chicken
- The food was **appetising/delectable/finger-licking/palatable/refreshing/scrumptious**.
- I found the dish too **bland/gamy/fishy**.
- The food tasted **awful/disgusting**.

Texture (Hand icon)

texture and temperature of food and drinks

- **buttery, fizzy, flaky, fluffy, foamy, moist, spongy**
- **steaming hot, lukewarm, icy cold**
- **crispy, crunchy, juicy, silky, tender**
- a piece of **succulent** meat
- The soup was **smooth** and **creamy**.
- The food was **oily, soggy** and **tough**.
- I didn't like the **chewy/rubbery** texture of the meat.

Hear (Ear icon)

environment and human noise/sounds in the restaurant

- a **buzzy** atmosphere with people **chatting and laughing**
- **melodious/relaxing/rhythmic traditional Chinese instrumental** music
- the **deafening/ear-splitting** voices
- **clashing and breaking/shattering** of plates and cups



Dim Sum One

The texture and temperature of food and drinks can be felt by **hand** and **mouth**.

Task 2: Revise Sam's dining review by adding more **sensory descriptions** to help readers understand his excitement. The sticky notes and symbols may help you.

Sam's draft dining review:

I liked the environment though it was a bit noisy. The dining hall looked nice with some lanterns.

I liked the food, too. The spring rolls were really yummy. They went well with the vinegar dip.

How did the dining hall **look**?
What could you **see**?
What **sound** did you **hear**?

How did the spring rolls **look** and **taste**?
What was the **texture** of the spring rolls?
How did the vinegar **smell**?

Sam An amazing dining experience (6 days ago)

I liked the environment. The dining hall was **brightly-lit** with rows of **flaming red** lanterns hanging down from the ceiling. The **buzzy** atmosphere made the place an ideal location for gatherings with family and friends. Though sometimes it could get a bit too **noisy** for me to hear my friends clearly, I think that's typical of a popular Chinese restaurant.

The food did not disappoint me. The **golden-brown** spring rolls were so **scrumptious**. They were **crispy** on the outside and **moist** on the inside. The vinegar dip might smell a bit **pungent**, but it was a perfect match for the spring rolls and increased my appetite.

Task 3: Chris had a terrible dining experience at *Dim Sum One* last week. Write a short review on the dining environment and food for him/her.

Chris What a disappointment!!! (7 days ago)

I visited *Dim Sum One* last week. The dining hall was pretty small. At the time I arrived, it was **jam-packed** with customers sitting back to back. The **deafening** voices of diners filled the whole restaurant and definitely ruined my appetite.

I only ordered the signature dishes – spring rolls and baked barbecued pork buns. To my disappointment, the spring rolls were not **crunchy** at all. They were so **soggy** and **oily** that I could tell they were prepared hours ago. The baked barbecued pork buns were no better. They were **cold**, **bland** and **hard** as rocks. I wondered why people recommended them and described them as 'steaming hot and tasty with a crispy top'! What's worse, the filling smelt **rancid** and I spat the meat out in disgust after the first bite. I complained to the manager and swore that I would never set foot in this restaurant again.