



When a man opens the car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.
Duke of Edinburgh, husband of Queen Elizabeth II

Modern manners

1 READING

a Read the text. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 Americans are ruder now than 20 years ago. | <u> T </u> |
| 2 People are ruder in the country than in cities. | <u> </u> |
| 3 Most people said they speak loudly on their cell phones in public places. | <u> </u> |
| 4 Many people think that technology is making us ruder. | <u> </u> |
| 5 People are more stressed now than years ago. | <u> </u> |
| 6 On Amtrak trains there is a car reserved for cell phone users. | <u> </u> |

b Look at the **highlighted** words. What do you think they mean? Check your dictionary.

Changing manners

The fast, high-tech lives of Americans have had a big effect on American society. Bad manners and behavior have become typical in our hurried world, from angry drivers to loud cell phone conversations in public.

Many Americans believe that manners have gotten worse and official figures confirm this. In a recent survey, nearly 70% said that people are ruder than they were 20 or 30 years ago. This is true of both large and small towns, **although** 74% of those living in cities said that people have become ruder, compared with 67% in rural areas. **However**, few people believe that they have bad manners themselves!

For example, only 8% in the questionnaire admit they have ever used their cell phones in public in a loud or annoying way.

Many people blame new technology for our changing

manners. Computers, MP3 players, and cell phones take us away from face-to-face contact, **as well as** being very annoying in public places. "All of these things result in a world with more stress, more chances for people to be rude to each other," said Peter Post, an instructor on business manners.

But what can we do about it? Some people would like to see a rail car reserved for cell phone users **so that** the rest of us can travel in peace and quiet. In fact, one train company, Amtrak, has banned cell phones in one car of some trains, which is called a "Quiet Car."

- c Complete the sentences with the **highlighted** words.
- 1 A lot of modern technology is designed for individual use, for example MP3 players.
 - 2 _____ talking loudly on their cells, some people also interrupt conversations to take a call.
 - 3 Cell phones are very useful. _____, they can also be very annoying.
 - 4 We should all improve our manners _____ we all can live together more happily.
 - 5 Almost everyone has a cell phone, _____ not everyone uses it every day.

2 GRAMMAR *must, have to, should* (obligation)

a Circle the correct option. If both are possible, circle them both.



- 1 If you don't like sore feet, you must / don't have to bring comfortable shoes to New York. You'll be doing a lot of walking.
- 2 If you get lost, you **must not** / **shouldn't** be afraid to ask for directions. New Yorkers are usually pretty friendly.
- 3 If you want to ask someone a question on the street, you **must** / **should** say "Excuse me" to get their attention.



- 4 If you drive, you **must / should** wear a seat belt at all times. It's the law.
- 5 If you have time, you **have to / should** take a ride on the Staten Island Ferry. It's free and you get a great view of the city.
- 6 To ride the bus, you **have to / should** have a MetroCard or the exact change. The drivers don't handle money.
- 7 New York is a pretty safe city, but use your common sense. For example, you **shouldn't / don't have to** walk in certain areas at night.

8 Some museums have a "suggested" entrance fee. That means you **must not / don't have to** pay the full price, but you **have to / should** pay something. It's not free.

9 In restaurants the tip is **not** included in the bill, so you **should / have to** leave a tip, about fifteen percent, if the service is satisfactory.

10 You **must not / don't have to** smoke in bars or restaurants. It is prohibited by law.

b Correct any mistakes in the **highlighted** phrases. Check (✓) the correct sentences.

1 My mother is a nurse and **she often should work** weekends.

she often has to work

2 **You should to take a rest** . You look exhausted.

3 In the future, everyone will must speak English and Chinese.

4 Do you have to wear a suit and tie to work?

5 I must stay in bed yesterday as I didn't feel well.

6 You don't have to park here. It says "no parking."

7 I didn't have to take a taxi. Lina took me to the airport.

8 People shouldn't answer their cell phones when they are talking to someone.

3 VOCABULARY cell phones

Complete the sentences.

- 1 If you want to send a message to someone, you can t *ext* _____ them.
- 2 When you call somebody and they are already talking, the line is b _____.
- 3 When you finish a phone call, you h _____ up.
- 4 If you want to call someone, you first have to d _____ their number, by pressing some keys.

- 5 The sound your cell phone makes when someone calls you is a r_____ t_____.
- 6 If you call someone and they don't answer, you can c_____ b_____ later.
- 7 You must remember to t_____ o_____ your cell phone when you go into a theater or concert hall.
- 8 If you call someone and their cell phone isn't on, you can leave a m_____ on their v_____ m_____.
- 9 If you use your phone when you are driving, you must use a h_____ -f_____ phone.
- 10 If you want to dial a number quickly, you can use sp_____ dialing.

More Words to Learn

Write translations and try to remember the words.

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
guests <i>noun</i>	/gɛsts/	
crazy <i>adjective</i>	/'kreɪzi/	
disgusting <i>adjective</i>	/dɪs'gʌstɪŋ/	
complain (about sth) <i>verb</i>	/kəm'pleɪn/	
do (sb) a favor <i>verb</i>	/du ə 'feɪvər/	
pour (a drink) <i>verb</i>	/pɔr/	
step on (somebody's foot) <i>verb</i>	/stɛp ɔn/	
swallow <i>verb</i>	/'swɑləʊ/	
translate (into) <i>verb</i>	/træns'leɪt/	