

Vocabulary

Table manners

- 1 Circle the most logical option (a or b) to follow each sentence.
- In my country, bringing a small gift when you visit someone's house is a sign of good manners and almost everyone does it.
a People expect it because it's typical behavior.
b Doing so may offend your host.
 - We usually offer food to the guest first.
a It's considered impolite.
b It's part of being a polite host.
 - Where I live, it's usually appropriate to leave a tip for the waiter when you eat at a restaurant.
a That's why I never do it.
b However, if the service is bad, of course it's socially acceptable not to.
 - I think not taking the last piece of food shows some respect to the other guests.
a So I try to take it if I have the chance.
b Taking the last piece of food might offend them.
 - Arriving a few minutes after the invitation time is socially acceptable in my country.
a But it's impolite to arrive more than ten minutes late.
b You really shouldn't do it.

- 2 Circle the correct options to complete the text about manners.

If you're a dinner guest at someone's house in another country, it may be useful to try to find out what behavior is ¹typical / not socially acceptable and try to copy it. Even if you get it a bit wrong sometimes, just trying will probably be seen as ²inappropriate / a sign of good manners. People can usually tell if you're trying to ³offend them / show them some respect, and they will appreciate your effort. In most cases, if you accidentally do something that's ⁴socially acceptable / impolite, it will most likely be ignored. If you ever have a ⁵guest / host from another country in your home, remember, they may or may not be familiar with local ideas about good table manners.

Focus On

Negative prefixes for adjectives

- 1 Complete the conversation with the correct prefixes.

Aisha: Hector asked me if I liked his new hairstyle, and I'm afraid my answer was a bit ¹_____ honest.

Benji: What did you say?

Aisha: Well, I didn't want to be ²_____ polite, so I told him I thought it looked nice. But I think he looks better with longer hair.

Benji: I think you did the right thing. It would be ³_____ sensitive to tell the truth in that situation. It would make him ⁴_____ happy knowing you don't think his hair looks good.

Aisha: Have you seen it?

Benji: No, what does it look like?

Aisha: Like he cut it himself! It's really ⁵_____ regular—a bit long here, a bit short there.

- 2 Complete the sentences with these adjectives and the correct prefixes.

flexible	formal	logical	organized
patient	perfect	respectful	

- The people in line for a table at the restaurant had been waiting for more than an hour and looked _____.
- I prefer to keep my kitchen neat and can't stand trying to cook when the kitchen is _____.
- Even when a meal is more relaxed and _____, manners are important.
- We need to be quiet inside the building. Talking or making noises is _____.
- His argument was completely _____. It didn't make any sense at all.
- It rained a bit on our picnic, but we had a nice time despite the _____ weather.
- Felix can be a bit _____ and gets upset if you suggest changing the routine.

Listening

1 **44** Listen and complete the sentences. Then listen again and check your answers.

- 1 _____ ever put your elbows on the table?
- 2 _____ ever have to hold oranges under your arms?
- 3 It _____ eat properly.
- 4 That _____ need to keep your elbows by your side.
- 5 She thought it was impolite to _____ elbows out when you eat.
- 6 My grandfather also _____ have two ears and one mouth for a reason.

2 **45** Listen to the conversation between Anne, Lutz, and Aadhya. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Anne, Lutz, and Aadhya are talking about manners they learned when they were growing up. T F
- 2 They discuss foods that they weren't allowed to eat. T F
- 3 They talk about embarrassing times when they accidentally did something rude at the table. T F
- 4 The topic of talking at the table comes up. T F

5 The group agree that manners shouldn't be taken seriously. T F

3 **45** Listen again. Circle the best answer for each question.

- 1 What is Anne unsure about?
 - a whether it's OK to sit on her knees
 - b where to put her hands
 - c the politest way to ask for more food
- 2 What does Lutz say about oranges?
 - a he was taught how to eat them properly
 - b his grandmother didn't allow him to eat them
 - c he used them to learn to hold his elbows in while eating
- 3 What table manners were Aadhya taught as a child?
 - a how to prepare the table for a meal
 - b the socially acceptable way to invite people to a meal
 - c the polite way to order French food
- 4 What do they mention that's polite in some places and impolite in others?
 - a leaving food on your plate
 - b talking during a meal
 - c making noise while eating
- 5 What did Aadhya have to know in order to be polite?
 - a the correct greeting to use
 - b people's age
 - c how people were related to her—cousin, uncle, etc.



