B12

ASKING FOR PERMISSION
by Julian Conde

I. Fill in the Blanks. Complete the sentences with "Do you mind" or "Would you mind."

1. _____ if I **opened** the window?
2. _____ if I **borrow** your pen for a moment?
3. _____ if I **turned** down the music?
4. _____ if we **leave** a bit early today?
5. _____ if you **passed** me the salt, please?

II. Rewrite the requests. Change these direct requests into polite ones using "Would it be OK."

1. "I need to close the door." → _____
2. "Can I sit here?" → _____
3. "I want to turn off the lights." → _____
4. "Can you help me with this?" → _____
5. "Can I use your phone?" → _____

III. Complete the answers for the requests. Make sure you use proper punctuation.

1. **Would it be OK if I borrowed your laptop for a few minutes?**
   I'm _____ I don't have enough battery.

2. **Would you mind if I turned on the air conditioner? It's really hot.**
   _____ ahead.

3. **Do you mind if I sit here? Every other seat is taken.**
   _____ at all.

4. **Would it be OK if I left the meeting a little early today?**
   _____, but you need to stay until the end.

5. **Would you mind if I brought a friend to the party?**
   No, not _____.