



Read the Signs

General English Beginner A2.3
Lesson 8



Approved by



Lesson Objectives

After this lesson, student will be able to:

- Identify different signs and symbols
- Familiarize oneself with different warnings and notices
- Use modal verbs to give permission and advice
- Use useful expressions in giving warning
- Learn the proper pronunciation of words with /h/, /ch/, and /j/

Warm Up

When must signs be used?



How can people understand the meaning of signs?

Introduction



A **sign** is a written or printed mark that has a standard meaning.

- Signs are posted to give us *important information*.
- The most common type of signs are *traffic signs*.
- Some signs *have letters and some have pictures*. Some signs have both letters and pictures.

Do you know?

Colors on safety signboards



- **Red** for prohibition



- **Yellow** for caution

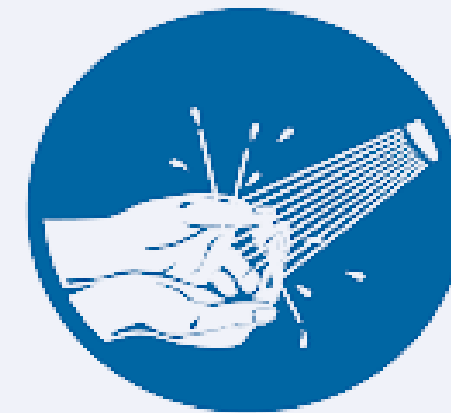


- **Green** for positive action sign



- **Blue** for mandatory action sign

Shapes on safety signboards



- **Discs** for prohibitions and instructions



- **Triangles** for warning

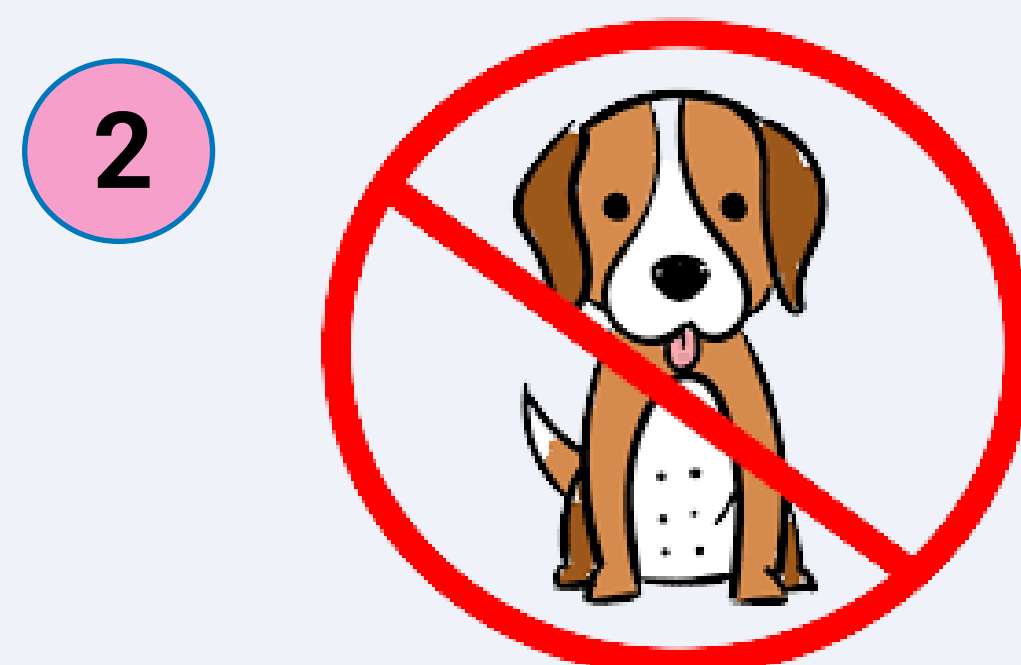


- **Squares and rectangles** for emergency and information signs

What safety signs do you see in your workplace?

Signs

Label the signs with the words below. Where do you see these signs?



- a. rubbish
- b. no smoking
- c. no photos
- d. toilets
- e. no phones
- f. no dogs

Vocabulary Build Up

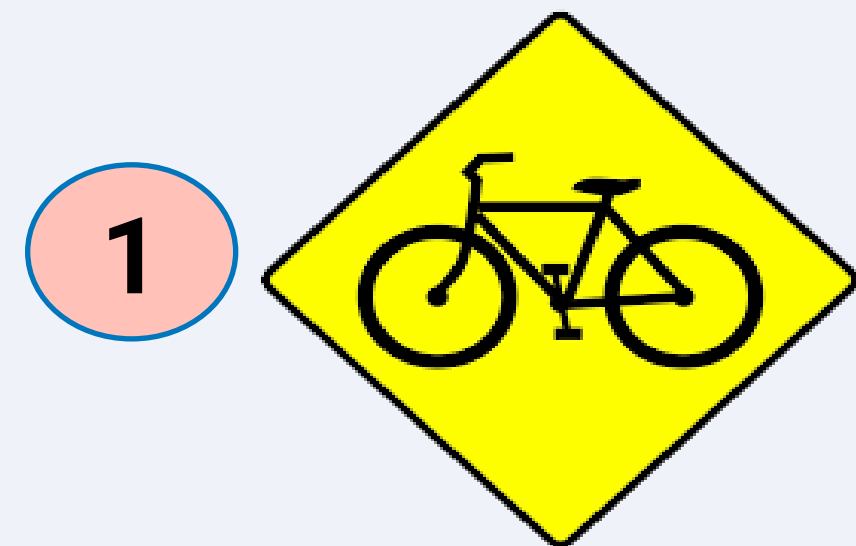
Match the pictures to the names of the signs below and answer the question for each item. Discuss.

*parking
cycle lane*

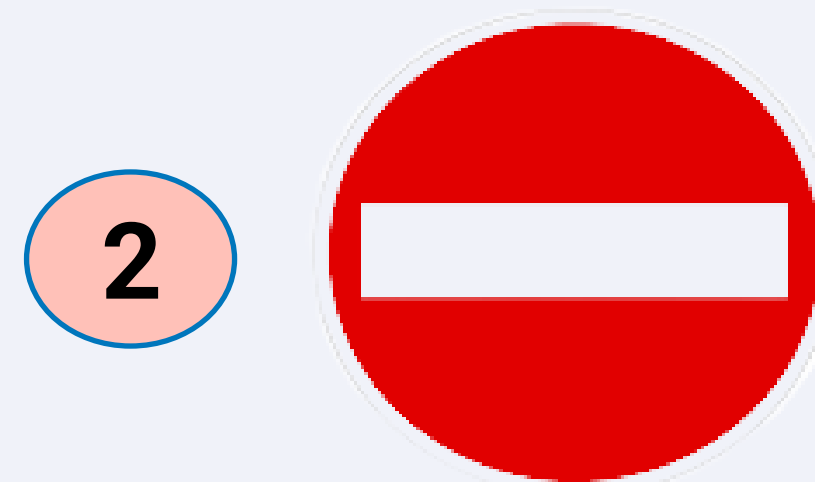
*no entry
turn left*

*speed limit
turn right*

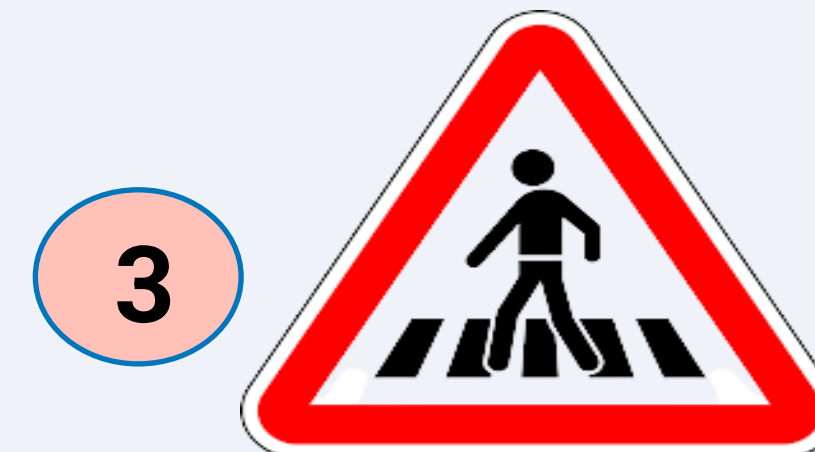
*no parking
pedestrian crossing*



Can you ride your bike here?



Can you go this way?



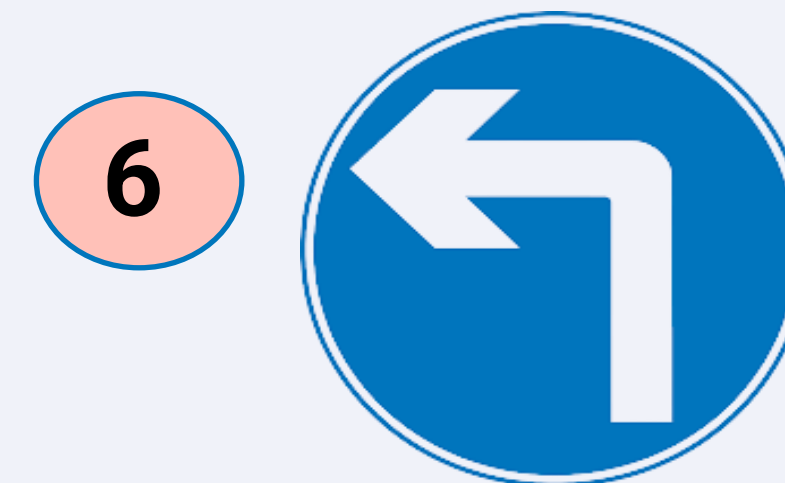
Can you walk across the road?



Can you drive faster than 50mph?



Can you park here?



Can you turn right?

Notices

Where can you find these notices? Choose the best place.

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



Let's Practice

Match the signs to the sentences.

- _____ 1. The elevator isn't working.
- _____ 2. Do not make any noise.
- _____ 3. You mustn't take food into the museum.
- _____ 4. You can't drive to the end of the street.
- _____ 5. Walk on the path.
- _____ 6. Watch your head.
- _____ 7. You mustn't go in the water.
- _____ 8. Don't leave the entrance open.

"No swimming"

"Out of order"

"No eating and drinking"

"Please close the gate"

"Road closed"

"Please keep off the grass"

"Silence please"

"Wear a helmet"

MODAL VERBS for PERMISSION

We use '**can/can't**' to give and refuse permission.

We use '**may/may not**' to give and refuse permission.

We use '**must/mustn't**' to express important things you do or don't do.

Example:

You can use your phone here.


(You have the permission to use your phone here.)

You may walk your dog here.

(You have the permission to walk dog here.)

You must be quiet.

(It is important to be quiet.)



Can is less formal and less polite than **may**. But **can** is used more often than **may**. In spoken American English.

NOTES

Let's Practice

Make sentences using the modal verbs on the previous page. Make use of the clues below.

1



smoke
here

2



use
phone

3



take your
dog

4



take
pictures

5



find the
toilet
sign

6



throw your
rubbish in
the trash
bin

Let's Practice

Read the story and fill in the blanks.

Last month, my friend Matt and I took a bus trip to visit a friend in New York. At the beginning of our trip, I wanted to call my friend and tell her that we were on our way. **1** _____ (polite) I use my phone on the bus?" "Yes, but don't speak too loudly."



After an hour on the bus, Matt got hungry. **2** "_____ I eat on the bus?" "Yes, you _____.
3 When we got off, I realized that I'd left my jacket on the bus. "I forgot my jacket. _____
I go back on the bus?" "Of course."

4

MODAL VERB SHOULD/SHOULDN'T for ADVICE AND OPINION

We often use **should** when offering advice or opinions.

	subject	auxiliary should	not	main verb base
+	He	should		work.
-	You	should	not	go
?	Should	we		help.

1. You **should** follow traffic rules.
2. You **shouldn't** use your cellphone when driving.
3. You **should** pay attention when you are driving
4. Your **shouldn't** forget to spare tire.

We can shorten the negative should not to **shouldn't**.

NOTES



Let's Practice

Fill in the blanks using **should** or **shouldn't**.

1. You _____ be careful not to turn or change lanes suddenly.
2. You _____ know to stay alert and be ready to slow down.
3. You _____ eat in the library.
4. You _____ throw your rubbish in a trash bin.
5. You _____ keep off the grass.
6. You _____ wear your helmet at a construction site.
7. You _____ buckle your seatbelt.
8. You _____ follow the rules.
9. You _____ read the signs.
10. You _____ litter.

A New Parking Sign

It was 6 p.m. Wednesday. Mel and Irene were standing near his old Buick. He parked the car on the same street every night. He was shaking his head. "It's not fair. It's not right," he said. "Look. It's a brand new sign. Look how shiny it is." The brand new parking sign said, "No Parking 7:30am-9am Wednesday." The old parking sign had said, "No Parking 1pm-2:30pm Wednesday." "My neighbors and I park on this street," said Mel.



"We know that we can't park here from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. But early this morning they changed these signs. Did they warn us? Did they say anything to us? No. But, they told parking enforcement! Parking enforcement wrote 25 tickets this morning! Twenty-five tickets! I counted them! Each ticket is \$48. We always move our cars before 1:00. Now we've got to fight these tickets. Why didn't they warn us?"

Reading Comprehension

Answer the questions.

1. **True** or **False**?

- It was 6a.m, Wednesday.
- Buick is standing with Mel and Irene outside the house.
- The old sign says No Parking 1:30pm- 2:30pm Wednesday.
- The new sign says Nor Parking 7:30am-9am Wednesday.

2. When was the sign changed?

3. Who were informed of the change?

4. How much is each parking ticket?

5. Are they going to pay the parking tickets?



a. Why are safety signs important?

b. What does caution mean?

c. Are safety signs just of the wall?

d. What are the types of signs in the workplace?

Listening



Listening 8.1

Listen to the woman and answer what she is describing.

- _____ 1. When you see this sign, do not do what you are doing.
- _____ 2. You may walk across a road when you see this sign.
- _____ 3. You may cross the street to go to school here.
- _____ 4. Do not go into the area that this line is around.
- _____ 5. This means the ground may be cracked or bumpy.
- _____ 6. Means you can't go that way.
- _____ 7. If you hear this, you have to get out of the building.
- _____ 8. It means bicycle can go across the road.

Useful Expressions

Discuss the expressions and use them in a sentence.

MIND YOUR HEAD

Where a ceiling or door is low and you might possibly bang (hit) your head.

KEEP OUT OF THE WAY

This is often shouted when we are in danger of bumping somebody who is too close to us.

BE CAREFUL

pay attention to what you are doing

IF I WERE YOU

We're using this expression when we want to give someone a piece of advice.

BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY

It's wiser to be careful than to do something in a hurry that you may later regret.

Let's Talk

1. What signs do you usually see at schools?
2. What signs do you usually see at offices?
3. What signs do you usually see at hospitals?
4. What signs do you usually see at airports?
5. What signs do you usually see at public area?
6. Which signs do you think are usually being followed?
Why?
7. Which signs do you think are usually NOT
being followed? Why?
8. Have you ever seen a traffic accident?
9. Are traffic accidents a major cause of death in your
country?
10. How can traffic accidents be prevented?
11. Are there enough traffic signs in your country?
12. Have you every violated any traffic rules?



Pronunciation Drill

Practice the minimal pairs with your teacher.

/H/

hop
who
hawk
hip
heart
heap

/Ch/

chop
chew
chalk
chip
chart
cheap

/J/

Jane
jeep
junk
joke
jive
jello

/Ch/

chain
cheap
chunk
choke
chive
cello

/J/

G
jeep
jug
Jill
jail
jut

/H/

he
heap
hug
hill
jail
hut

Thank you.



#MakinCakap