



Good Manners

Conversation > Advanced 7



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

behave	The way a person acts or conducts oneself.
[verb]	<i>Ex: He doesn't know how to behave like a professional.</i>

belch	To let gas come up noisily from your stomach and out through your mouth.
[verb]	<i>Ex: It is generally considered to be very rude to belch.</i>

manner	Behavior that is considered to be polite in a particular society or culture.
[noun]	<i>Ex: You need to learn better manners.</i>

polite	Behaving in a way that shows respect and thoughtfulness for other people's feelings.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: In Japan, it is considered polite to bow to someone when meeting.</i>

stare	To look at somebody or something for a long time.
[verb]	<i>Ex: Everyone stared at his unusual hat.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.

Thomas: Samuel! You can't just belch like that in the middle of a restaurant. It's not polite!

Samuel: You are always so worried about manners!

Thomas: That's because they're important. Other people want to be comfortable and enjoy their meals.

Samuel: What about that guy over there, he coughs every few minutes.

Thomas: Don't stare at him! He can't help it, he's sick. Would you please just behave?

Samuel: Alright! You don't have to shout at me. I won't look at him anymore...



Thomas: You're old enough by now to know what is and isn't acceptable behavior.

Samuel: I know, I know. I'll try to behave. Are we going to have some dessert?

Thomas: That depends. Can you be polite throughout the rest of the meal?

Samuel: Of course! I can be the most polite person here if it means I get ice cream.

Thomas: All right then. Here comes the waiter. You order and we'll see how polite you really are.

Samuel: Oh, boy! I promise I won't belch anymore just get me some ice cream!



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.

Answer Pool

manners

polite

belched

stared

behaves

1. He _____ noisily and scratched his armpit. It was disgusting!
2. My older brother sometimes _____ like a little kid.
3. You need to be more _____ to our customers.
4. She _____ at the floor for a whole minute without saying a word.
5. Her date had very good _____.



Exercise 4 – Role Play

Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.

Scene: You were at a restaurant when your friend George belched loudly. Talk to him about it and tell him why what he did is not polite. The teacher can be George.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. Would you call yourself polite? Why? Why not?
2. When you notice someone doing something rude, do you correct them? Why? Why not?
3. Is it rude to talk to strangers in your country? What do you think about talking to strangers?
4. Who taught you manners? Can you give any examples of manners that you were taught?
5. Do you think there are situations in which it is OK to be rude? If so, which situations?