

UNIT 4: LANGUAGE AND BEHAVIOUR

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you think about swearing?
2. Do you use swear words?
3. In which occasions would swearing be acceptable to you?
4. What's the Spanish attitude to swearing?
5. What do you think is bad manners?
6. Have you ever had a misunderstanding due to cultural differences?
7. Are there any customs and behaviours that annoy you specially?

Useful language: Delaying strategies

That's a very interesting question because...

That's a difficult question to answer because...

I'll need time to think about that.

What do you mean by that?

Well, if you ask me, it all depends on your circumstances

INTERACTION

IN PAIRS

A) Make a list of the things you can and you can't do in the following situations:

1. At the library
2. At the cinema
3. In a restaurant
4. At the zoo
5. At the hospital
6. At the airport

Useful expressions

You can...

You can't...

You have to...

You should...

You shouldn't...

You are supposed to... but...

B) Prepare yourselves to ask for permission to do two things in each place.

C) Change partner:

- Student A asks for permission
- Student B gives or refuses permission
- Change roles

Useful expressions

Can I...? May I...? Do you mind if I...+ present? Would you mind if I...+ past?	
Not at all No, I don't mind No, go ahead Please do Certainly Yes, of course	No, I'm sorry, (I'm afraid...) Yes, I'm afraid I do mind. I'm afraid you can't.

WRITING

Write an article about a custom or behaviour that annoys you specially (opinion essay)

OPINION ESSAYS

What is it? An opinion essay is a discursive essay in which you present your personal opinion on a particular topic.

Where can I find it?

You can find this type of writing in the form of an article in newspapers, magazines...

Structure

Introduction

Paragraph 1

Introduce the subject and state your opinion clearly

Main body (the number of paragraphs depend on the number of viewpoints included)

Paragraph 2

First viewpoint (supported by reasons / examples)

Paragraph 3

Second viewpoint (supported by reasons / examples)

Paragraph 4

Opposing viewpoint (supported by reasons / examples)

Conclusion

Restate your opinion using different words

Linking words / phrases you can use

To list points: firstly, to begin with, for one thing, secondly, lastly.

To add more points: also, moreover, apart from this, in addition, furthermore.

To introduce opposing viewpoints: although, on the other hand, however, nonetheless.

To introduce examples / reasons: for example, such as, for instance, in other words, in particular, because, since (=because).

To conclude: to sum up, all things considered, taking everything into account.

Useful expressions for giving opinions

I believe / think / feel that...

I strongly believe that...

In my opinion / view...

To my mind...

Grammar

We normally use the present tense in this kind of text

Register

Opinion essays are normally written in formal style. Avoid using colloquial expressions, short forms or personal examples.