

Phone Etiquette

Task 1: Look at the list of annoying phone behaviour. Read and discuss point by point your personal experience regarding these inappropriate phone behaviours.

1 Phone at the dinner table

Leaving your phone on the dinner table at home or in a restaurant is rude. If you must answer a call because of an important situation, explain it to your friends before taking the call and then go outside.

2 Calls in the middle of a personal conversation

How would you feel if your best friend took a call in the middle of a really personal conversation with you? Mobile phones can really hurt your friendships. Make sure you give your friends your undivided and phone-free attention if they come to you for an important 'heart-to-heart'.

3 Loud phone calls in public spaces

When in public, don't shout into the phone. It causes noise pollution for the people around you and it's also not a good idea to have total strangers listen into your private conversation. Lower your voice in a park, where people come to relax, or on the train where people are stressed and exhausted from work and need their peace and quiet.

4 Using the phone in inappropriate situations

In the cinema, theatre, classroom, the library, church, or during a funeral are some of those situations where using a phone is off limits. Even just checking messages and having your phone light up in dark places is rude and causes distraction for the people around you. So, hands off!

5 Using the phone during everyday interactions

It's just rude to talk on the phone while a cashier is helping you at the supermarket, or when you are in a doctor's waiting room with other people who are feeling sick and unwell. Also, don't walk around town while staring at your phone like a smombie. You may bump into other people or even create dangerous situations for drivers.

Speaking Test Part 1 – General Conversation

In this part, I'm going to give you a topic to talk about.
Ask each other questions in order to find out about phone behaviour you find unacceptable.
Keep the conversation going.

Time: 4 minutes