

1.2 On Saying 'Please'

On Saying "Please" is really worth reading to bring a change in our social behaviour. Here, one can enjoy the writer's meticulous selection of vocabulary and complex structures. It sets a challenge in front of the readers to find contextual references of the words and phrases.

Title: The title 'On Saying 'Please'' gives us a hint that the topic is related to manners. We should know the importance of saying 'please' to others. Good manners make us a socially accepted person. It makes healthy relationship between individuals.

New words:-

Undoubtedly - known for certain to be so

Discourtesy - not polite, rudeness

assault and battery - an attack which includes not only threats but the actual use of violence

burglar - thief who breaks into houses shops etc with the intention of stealing

retaliate - to do something bad to someone who has done something bad to you

assailant - an attacker

legislate - to make a law or laws

violence - action or feeling that causes damage, unrest etc

to box - to fight with the fists (closed hands)

haughty - a high opinion of oneself and often a low position of others

boorish - rude, uncultured

laceration - hurt feelings

slur - a cause of blame

redress - remedy, set right

vanity - pride

brooding over - spend time thinking anxiously or sadly about something

equilibrium - balance (of the mind, emotions)

bullied - threatened

insolent - very rude

henpecked – a husband who always does what his wife tells him to do

black eye – dark coloured skin around somebody's eye where he or she has been hit

endorse - official agreement to the decision

martyrdom - the death or suffering of a martyr

morose - unhappy, very sad and ill tempered

Decalogue - the Ten Commandments

Verdict - judgement

intercourse - communication, conversation

resentment - anger

ordeal - difficult or painful experience

knave - a dishonest person

cheerfully - happily

squared - having no doubt, settled

countenance - a person's face or expression

treading - pressing down something with foot

assured - confident

inexhaustible - unlimited ,can never be finished

solicitous - caring or concerned, giving helpful care

irradiated - (here) spread or produced

uncouth - impolite, unrefined

benediction - a blessing

conciliatory - trying to win friendly feelings

panegyric - a speech or piece of writing praising someone highly

moral affront – insult, disrespect

boor - a rude insensitive person

Ice Breakers

1) List the words of courtesy that we use in our daily life. Explain the purpose of using each.

Answer:

Words and purpose:-

- 1) Thank you** – To express gratitude
- 2) Excuse me** – To take permission to go ahead or to ask something
- 3) Pardon me** – To ask to repeat the words
- 4) May I** – To take permission
- 5) Yes / No sir** – To agree or disagree with respect - man

6.To occupy the seats reserved for ladies or physically challenged or elderly people on a bus or a train.

Ans: Inappropriate

About the writer:

Alfred George Gardiner was an English journalist, editor and author. His essays, written under the alias "Alpha of the Plough", are highly regarded. He started his literary career as a journalist. At age of 37, he was appointed editor of the Daily News. He made regular contributions to the Daily News, The Manchester Evening News etc. His essays are uniformly elegant, graceful and humorous. 'The Pillars of Society', 'Pebbles on the Shore', 'Many Furrows and Leaves in the Wind' are some of his best known writings. His uniqueness lies in his ability to teach the basic truths of life in an easy and amusing manner. He raises the question of morality in everyday life.

Brainstorming

A1)

(i) Explain the following words with examples.

a) Humility : Modesty

Example- She needs the humility to accept that their way may be better.

b) Self-esteem : Self respect

Example- He got self – esteem earning sufficient money

c) Gratitude: The quality of being grateful.

Example- Students expressed their gratitude to the teachers on Teachers' Day.

d) Courtesy: The showing of politeness in one's attitude and behaviour towards others.

Example- The manager treated the players with courtesy and good humour.

e) Generosity: The quality of being kind and generous.

Example- I was overwhelmed by the generosity of friends and neighbours.

f) Sympathy: The feelings of pity and sorrow for someone else's misfortune.

Example- They had great sympathy for the flood victims.

g) Empathy: The ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

Example- He had empathy with small children.

(A2)

(i) Read the text and state whether the following statements are True or False. Correct the False statements.

(a) Bitter problems in day-to-day life can be solved by sweet words.

Answer- True

(b) Great wars could have been avoided by a little courtesy.

Answer- True

(c) Observance of etiquette in a normal situation is important but more important is their observance when the situation is adverse.

Answer- True

(d) Words like 'please' and 'thank you' help us in making our passage through life uneasy.

Answer- False

Correct Sentence- Words like 'please' and 'thank you' help us in making our passage through life easy.

(e) The law permits anybody to use violence, if another person is discourteous.

Answer- False

Correct Sentence- The law does not permit anybody to use violence, if another person is discourteous. It's not a legal offence.

(ii) Select the most appropriate sentences which suggest the theme of the essay.

(a) The essay tells us about courtesy, civility, morality, responsibility and control.

(b) The essay explores the difficulties that can be incurred by an individual when dealing with the public.

(c) One can keep one's peace of mind without having to lower themselves to the level of the perceived offender.

(d) People with low self-esteem are generally difficult to work with and they look down upon others to get a feeling of superiority.

Answer-

(a) The essay tells us about courtesy, civility, morality, responsibility and control.

(c) One can keep one's peace of mind without having to lower themselves to the level of the perceived offender.

(a) Find the reasons for the lift-man's uncivilized behaviour.

Answer- The passenger's discourteous behaviour, wound to self respect or vanity, slur upon (insult of) his social standing etc.

(b) List the people and their behaviour that made the passenger rude and ill-mannered.

Answer-

1) Housemade – answered back to the cook

2) cook – very rude to passenger's wife

3) Wife – employer is henpacked by his wife at breakfast

4) Employer- did not say 'Good Morning' to passenger

5) Liftman – expected to say 'Please'

6) Passenger – rude and ill - mannered towards the liftman

(iv) Good manners are required in our daily life for making our social contacts more cooperative and friendly. Illustrate the behaviour of the polite conductor with different people in various situations.

Situation	Behaviour
1. The writer's sensitive toe was trampled on	The conductor said sorry with an apology and courtesy.
2. In the rainy season dealing with people	The conductor would run up the stairs to give them the tip that there was "room inside"
3. Dealing with old people	The conductor behaved as a loving and caring son
4. Dealing with children	The conductor behaved as caring or concerned father
5. Dealing with young people	The conductor had a peculiarly warm place in his heart for young people, and always indulged in some merry jest with them
6. Dealing with a blind man	The conductor set blind man down safely on the pavement and also took him across the road or round the corner, or otherwise safely on his way

(A3)

(a) Find out the words in column 'B' which collocate with the words in column 'A'.

A	B
regular	meal
mid-day	concept
key	food
fast	exercise
try	decorated
richly	hard
free	jam
traffic	time
social	animal
wild	justice

Answer-

regular exercise
mid-day meal
key concept
fast food
try hard
richly decorated
free time
traffic jam
social justice
wild animal

A4)

(i) Edit the given paragraph using a/an/the wherever necessary.

Rakesh is a/an ideal son who remains devoted to his father as he grows professionally to become a/the famous doctor. As his father grows old, he takes care to spend time with his father, bringing him tea in a/the morning and taking him out for a/the walk in an/the evening.

Answer:

Rakesh is an ideal son who remains devoted to his father as he grows professionally to become a famous doctor. As his father grows old, he takes care to spend time with his father, bringing him tea in the morning and taking him out for a walk in the evening.

ii) Spot the errors in each of the following sentences and correct the incorrect ones.

(a) Radha brought pens and distributed them between her five children.

Ans- Radha brought pens and distributed them among her five children.

(b) Jayshree and Sujata sat besides each other in complete silence.

Ans- Jayshree and Sujata sat beside each other in complete silence.

(c) His best friend Vijay was blind within one eye.

Ans- His best friend Vijay was blind in one eye.

(d) One could dare to encroach on his rights.

Ans- One could dare to encroach upon his rights.

(e) She was taken with surprise when she saw the famous Taj Mahal.

Ans- She was taken by in surprise when she saw the famous Taj Mahal.

(f) It is not possible to exchange the goods once the sale has been completed.

Ans- It is not possible to exchange goods once the sale has been completed.

(g) Dr. Sengupta has been trying to master the craft for the last five years.

Ans- No error.

(h) The top-ranking candidates will be appointed in senior jobs in banks.

Ans-The top-ranking candidates will be appointed to senior jobs in banks.

(i) She knows very well what is expected from her but she is unable to perform.

Ans-She knows very well what is expected of her but she is unable to perform.

(j) They will put on a note in this regard for your consideration.

Ans-They will put up a note in this regard for your consideration.