

### School Etiquette

Today, let's talk about school etiquette. It is a hot topic in some schools currently. School etiquette is about students social behaviour in school, especially in the classroom. With the new school term having started, students in some schools have been sent home for wearing the wrong sort of school uniform.

In Norfolk, England, one new headmaster is asking parents to make sure their children are in bed every night by 9pm and up by 6.30am. Students have also been told that their mobiles will be confiscated for up to four months, if they use them in class. If a student is feeling sick, a bucket will be provided for them to vomit into. The idea of this strict regime is to improve standards in the school in question, and to ultimately improve exam results.

In the UK, some pupils who wear the wrong type of shoes or trousers, or too short a skirt to school, are either sent home, put into detention, or worse - put into isolation.

The idea of all these rules is to instil respect for your elders and to learn about social behaviour. Getting pupils to observe the rules of the school theoretically helps set you up for life, in whatever you do once you leave school.

However, one can argue this is all a waste of time. In Slovakia, in Central Europe, no student at secondary school wears any school uniform. They wear what they want and their haircuts reflect their mood or the latest fashion. They wear designer trainers and other fashion accessories. The emphasis, in this country, is for students to pass their high school diploma, so that they can go to university, in order to get that bit of paper they need to get a decent job.

Different schools have different etiquette rules. How does your school rate against others in your area for discipline and uniform?

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

What does 'etiquette' mean? Think of three things you know about school etiquette. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

### Student A questions

- 1) Explain the meaning of 'isolation'?
- 2) What is school uniform?
- 3) Name the county. Where is it located?
- 4) Name the countries.
- 5) What does 'discipline' mean?

### Student B questions

- 1) What did one headmaster ask parents?
- 2) What is the idea of all these rules?
- 3) What is the emphasis on in the schools in Central Europe?
- 4) What is the difference between the clothes worn in schools in Central Europe and the UK?
- 5) What is a bucket and what is it used for?

**Category: UK / Education / Etiquette**

**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

## School Etiquette – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can about '**Etiquette**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – Think of three reasons why you should study hard at school. Write them below. Discuss!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three things what school etiquette might teach you about life. Discuss!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

### SPEAKING – PUNISHMENT AT SCHOOL

*In pairs* – Think of 20 things you can be punished for in school, e.g. wearing a skirt that is too short, or having an inappropriate haircut. List them and discuss. Which is the worst thing you have been punished for? *3 mins.*

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What do you think of your school's etiquette policy?
- 3) Are some schools etiquette polices too strict?
- 4) Why does school etiquette discipline differ in other countries?
- 5) Would you prefer to wear what you want to school? Why?
- 6) Is school uniform important in schools?
- 7) Why do some head teachers send their pupils home or into detention or worse into isolation?
- 8) Have you ever been put into detention?
- 9) Should they bring back corporal punishment in schools? Explain.
- 10) What do you want to do when you leave school?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 3

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *School Etiquette.*

- 1) A head teacher.
- 2) A student.
- 3) A parent.
- 4) A teacher.

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING – PRESENTATION

*As a class/In small groups/In pairs* – Prepare and present a two minute presentation on a 'zero tolerance policy in schools today'. Is it appropriate? *10-15 mins.*

### SPEAKING – DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes* – As a class.

**School Etiquette – What does it mean to you? Should school be so strict? Should corporal punishment be reintroduced?**

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Does your school provide a bucket to vomit into in class?
- 3) Does your school confiscate your mobile if it rings in class?
- 4) What would you do if your mobile was confiscated in class?
- 5) Do you think rules in schools are important?
- 6) How does your school rate in the country wide exam tables?
- 7) Have you ever been sent home for wearing the wrong type of school uniform?
- 8) Does your school tell your parents when you should to go to bed and get up?
- 9) How are the standards in your school?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## GAP FILL: READING

### School Etiquette

Today, let's talk about school (1)\_\_. It is a hot topic in some schools currently. School etiquette is about students social (2)\_\_ in school, especially in the classroom. With the new school term having started, students in some schools have been sent home for wearing the wrong sort of school (3)\_\_.

In Norfolk, England, one new headmaster is asking parents to make sure their children are in bed every night by 9pm and up by 6.30am. Students have also been told that their mobiles will be confiscated for up to four months, if they use them in class. If a student is feeling sick, a (4)\_\_ will be provided for them to (5)\_\_ into. The idea of this strict regime is to improve standards in the school in question, and to ultimately improve exam results.

In the UK, some pupils who wear the (6)\_\_ type of shoes or trousers, or too short a skirt to school, are either sent home, put into (7)\_\_, or worse - put into (8)\_\_.

***isolation / wrong / detention / vomit / uniform / behaviour / etiquette / bucket***

The idea of all these rules is to (1)\_\_ (2)\_\_ for your elders and to learn about social behaviour. Getting pupils to (3)\_\_ the rules of the school (4)\_\_ helps set you up for life, in whatever you do once you leave school.

However, one can argue this is all a waste of time. In Slovakia, in Central Europe, no student at secondary school wears any school uniform. They wear what they want and their haircuts reflect their mood or the latest fashion. They wear designer trainers and other fashion (5)\_\_. The emphasis, in this country, is for students to pass their high school diploma, so that they can go to university, in order to get that bit of paper they need to get a decent (6)\_\_. Different school have different etiquette (7)\_\_. How does your school rate against others in your area for (8)\_\_ and uniform?

***respect / instil / rules / observe / discipline / accessories / theoretically / job***

## GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

### School Etiquette

Today, let's talk about school etiquette. It is a hot topic in (1)\_\_ schools currently. School etiquette is about students social behaviour in school, especially in the classroom. (2)\_\_ the new school term having started, students in some schools have been sent home for wearing the wrong sort of school uniform.

In Norfolk, England, one new headmaster is asking parents to make sure their children are in bed (3)\_\_ night by 9pm and up by 6.30am. Students have (4)\_\_ been told that (5)\_\_ mobiles will be confiscated for up to four months, if they use them in class. If a student is feeling sick, a bucket will be provided for (6)\_\_ to vomit into. The idea of (7)\_\_ strict regime is to improve standards in the school in question, and to ultimately improve exam results.

In the UK, some pupils who wear the wrong type of shoes or trousers, or too short a skirt to school, are either sent home, put (8)\_\_ detention, or worse - put into isolation.

***into / every / this / with / some / also / them / their***

The idea (1)\_\_ all these rules is to instil respect for your elders and to learn about social behaviour. Getting pupils to observe the rules of the school theoretically helps set you up for life, in whatever (2)\_\_ do once you leave school.

However, one can argue this is all a waste of time. In Slovakia, in Central Europe, no student at secondary school wears (3)\_\_ school uniform. They wear what they want and their haircuts reflect their mood (4)\_\_ the latest fashion. They wear designer trainers and other fashion accessories. The emphasis, in this country, is (5)\_\_ students to pass their high school diploma, (6)\_\_ that they can go to university, in order to get that bit of paper they need to get a decent job. Different school have different etiquette rules. (7)\_\_ does your school rate against others (8)\_\_ your area for discipline and uniform?

***in / so / or / of / you / for / how / any***



**GAP FILL: LISTENING**

**WRITING/SPELLING**

**School Etiquette**

Today, let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_. It is a hot topic in some schools currently. School etiquette is about students social behaviour in school, especially in the classroom. With the new school term having started, students in some schools have been sent home for wearing the wrong sort of school uniform.

In Norfolk, England, one \_\_\_\_\_ asking parents to make sure their children are in bed every night by 9pm and up by 6.30am. Students have also been told that their mobiles will be \_\_\_\_\_ to four months, if they use them in class. If a student is feeling sick, a bucket will be provided for them to vomit into. The idea of this strict regime is to \_\_\_\_\_ the school in question, and to ultimately improve exam results.

In the UK, some pupils who wear the wrong type of shoes or trousers, or too short a skirt to school, are either sent home, \_\_\_\_\_, or worse - put into isolation.

The idea of all these rules is to instil respect for your elders and to learn about \_\_\_\_\_. Getting pupils to observe the rules of the school \_\_\_\_\_ set you up for life, in whatever you do once you leave school.

However, one can argue this is \_\_\_\_\_. In Slovakia, in Central Europe, no student at secondary school wears any school uniform. They wear what they want and their haircuts reflect their mood or the latest fashion. They wear designer trainers and \_\_\_\_\_. The emphasis, in this country, is for students to pass their high school diploma, so that they can go to university, in order to get that bit of paper they need to get a decent job.

Different school have different etiquette rules. How does your school \_\_\_\_\_ in your area for discipline and uniform?

**www.newsflashenglish.com**

Copyright D. J. Robinson 2017 (V1)

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

**1) On the board** - *In pairs/As a class*, list **20 school rules**. Talk briefly about each of them. *Five minutes*.

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) School etiquette \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) I think \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) In my school \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Write down 50 words about: *School Etiquette***. Your words can be read out in class.

**4) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***School Etiquette***.

**SPELLING**

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) behaviour
- 2) Slovakia
- 3) secondary
- 4) reflect
- 5) accessories
- 6) emphasis
- 7) university
- 8) different
- 9) discipline
- 10) uniform

**SPELLING**

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 11) etiquette
- 12) currently
- 13) especially
- 14) wrong
- 15) Norfolk
- 16) theoretically
- 17) vomit
- 18) regime
- 19) ultimately
- 20) isolation

School Etiquette – *10<sup>th</sup> September 2017*