

THEME 10 MANNERS LISTENING SKILL (NOTIFIER)

A. Listen to the radio program. Tick the countries for their cultural practices and manners. (Tapescript 10.2)

Cultural Practice/Consideration	Egypt	Türkiye	Ghana	Japan	China	The USA	The UK	Germany
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Tipping is impolite.

Tipping is polite.

Slurping means you're happy with the meal.

If you invite, you pay.

Everyone should go individual while paying the bill.

Blowing your nose in public is rude.

Asking for the salt is considered to be an expression of dissatisfaction.

Tapescript 10.2

Presenter : Now, we will listen to Dr. Susan Lincoln about cultural differences. Susan, the floor is yours.

Susan : Hello and thank you. Well... Mannerisms and practices vary by culture. As the saying goes, one's meat is another's poison. Something polite may be considered impolite in another culture. Tipping for example... In touristic destinations such as Türkiye, Egypt, the USA, and the UK, it is considered polite while it is impolite, even disrespectful in Japan and China, with some exceptions, of course. Likewise, smacking your lips or slurping while eating something is considered rude and disrespectful in many parts of the world while, in China, it is considered a way of expressing your happiness with the food to the chef.

Presenter : Interesting! Could you give other examples, please?

Susan : Sure. That's why I am here. Now, let's take paying the bills in restaurants. In countries such as the USA, the UK, and Germany, most people go individual to pay the bill. However, if you invite your friends out for a meal, you are supposed to pay. This is common in countries that are well-known for their hospitalities, such as Türkiye and Ghana. Another interesting and important point is about Japan... If you go to Japan, do not blow your nose in public. It is not only rude but also disrespectful. And, in Egypt, do not ask for the salt if you are at a dinner table as a guest. It means that the dish you are having lacks good seasoning and you are not happy with this. What I mean is that awareness about mannerisms matters, and before traveling to a place, try to learn about common practices and mannerisms.