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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Polite, Neutral or Rude Language – Introduction

Note: These instructions apply to the following English Banana.com worksheets: "Polite, Neutral or Rude Language 1-4".

We use **polite** language in formal situations and with people that we don't know well. We may also use polite language when we need to ask somebody we know for a favour. We don't need to use polite language all the time. If we did we would sound very strange!

We use **neutral** language in everyday informal situations and with family and friends, as well as with people that we know well.

We use **rude** language when we are angry or upset, or if we are feeling stressed. We may use it with family and friends as well as with people we don't know. It may be better to find ways of avoiding the use of rude language because it does tend to make a bad situation worse, rather than help resolve it – although you may feel better because you have let off steam!

Read the situations on the four worksheets and decide which type of language is most likely to be used – polite, neutral or rude. Compare the different responses and consider why they may or may not be appropriate.

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