

# Social Niceties

**1** Look at these sentences. How should you respond? Choose a reply from the words below.

1. I'm sorry I'm late.
2. Could I borrow your pen?
3. My cat 'Fifi' was run over yesterday.
4. Do you mind if I sit here?
5. Would you like some coffee?
6. I'm going to be a father!

**NO, NOT AT ALL.      OH, I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.      THAT'S OK.**  
**I'M OK, THANKS.      YES, OF COURSE.      CONGRATULATIONS!**

**2** Listen to your teacher. Write a suitable response.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**3** Practice the following situations with your partner.

- You spill some wine on the carpet.
- Your brother has broken his leg.
- You got married last month.
- Your imagination!

# Social Niceties: Teaching Notes

<b>Target Structure:</b>	Social English Responses
<b>Vocabulary:</b>	General
<b>Level:</b>	Intermediate and above
<b>Time:</b>	20 minutes +
<b>Preparation:</b>	None

## Suggested Teaching Method

This worksheet deals with some common situations that need 'quick thinking' answers. There's a listening section, so you need to bring these notes into the classroom!

❶ Students read the instructions. They should only use the phrases in the grey box.

❷ Read the following. (Feel free to change these, if you wish.)

1. *Do you mind if I go home early?*
2. *I won a vacation to Florida yesterday!*
3. *Would you like something to eat?*
4. *My house burned down last night!*
5. *I'm sorry- I didn't bring your homework.*
6. *Can I make a quick phone call?*

Repeat the sentences once, if necessary. Students should check in pairs. Go through the answers with the entire class. There are many possible answers.

❸ Follow the instructions. These are very-mini role-plays. Do an example with a confident student. Allow students to practice in pairs for a few minutes.

## Answer Key:

I'm sorry I'm late.

Could I borrow your pen?

My cat 'Fifi' was run over yesterday.

Do you mind if I sit here?

Would you like some coffee?

I'm going to be a father!

That's ok.

Yes, of course.

Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.

No, not at all.

I'm ok, thanks.

Congratulations!

## Your Feedback



Have you taught this lesson? We would be pleased to hear some feedback.

Send us your comments to [editor@handoutsonline.com](mailto:editor@handoutsonline.com).