

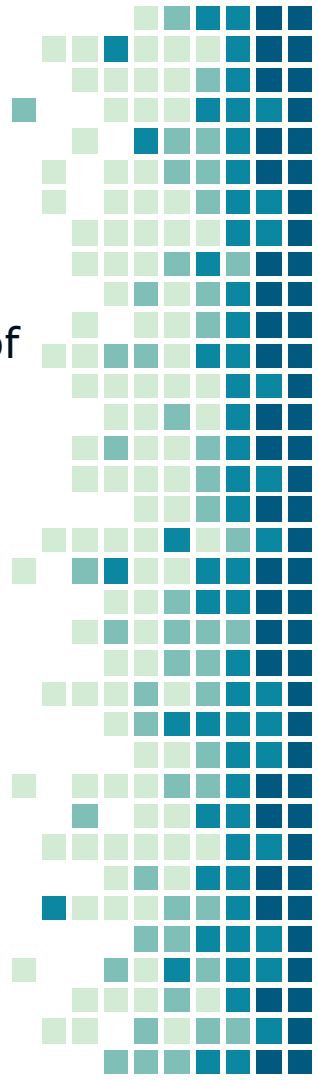
***Manners
&
Mannerisms***



“Manners maketh man”

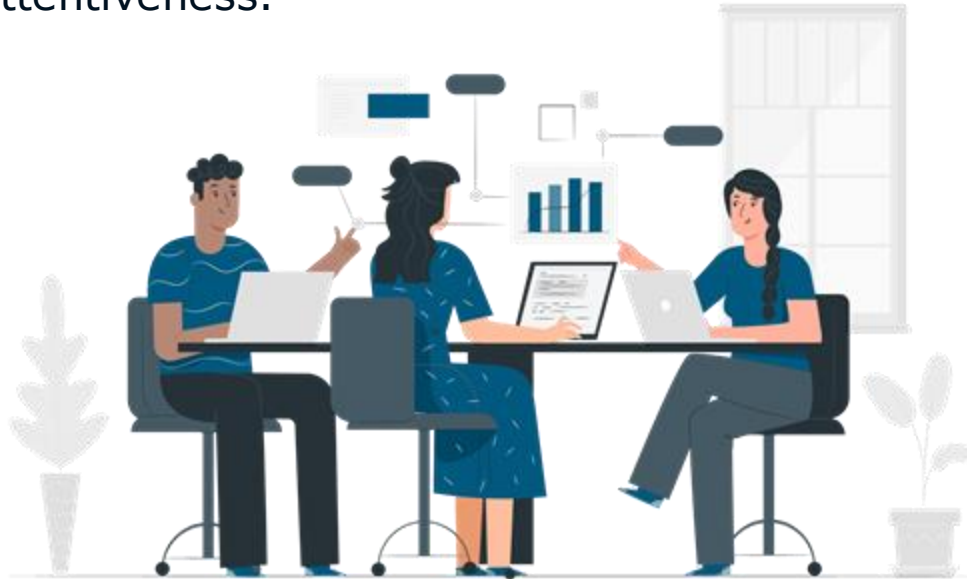
In our own culture we are provided with a code for behavior. At home we know how to behave at the dinner table, at cocktail parties, in restaurants, at meetings and at a variety of social occasions. It is a familiar regulatory mechanism which stops people from making fools of themselves or being considered outsiders.

As a representative of Ukraine, I would like to show what good manners we have. Unfortunately, what are good manners in one country can be eccentricity or downright bad manners in another.



Sincerity Helps

Europeans, Asians and Americans meet regularly on business and at conferences and manage to avoid giving offence by being their honest selves. The odd dinner or business meeting we carry off well in the euphoria generated by the host's generosity and the guest's appreciative attentiveness.



Sincerity Helps

The American habit of sprawling in chairs at business conferences may seem friendly and disarming to the British but would confuse German.

Mexican unpunctuality, forgiven once, becomes unacceptable if endemic. Latin loquacity, engaging at first for Finns and Swedes, soon drives them up the wall.



Dining Etiquette

"Americans eat to live and that the French live to eat"

Many Americans have a Coke and burger in the office, the English a sandwich or pub lunch, and Scandinavians are in and out of the company canteen in 30 minutes flat.

In contrast, the French attach social importance to the midday meal, which may last from one to two hours. Spaniards, Portuguese and Greeks rarely rush it either.



Eating Hours

- ❑ Nordics, who begin work early, have very little breakfast, but are starving by noon.
- ❑ Finns have lunch at 11.30, while 12.30-1 is a European norm.
- ❑ Spaniards rarely get the meal on the table before 2 and used to carry on until 4 or 5 pm.
- ❑ Canada and New Zealand have an early 'supper'.
- ❑ the Americans and most northern and central Europeans sit down around 7.30,
- ❑ the Spaniards and Portuguese have dinner at about 9 or 10pm, often leaving it much later than that.
- ❑ Chinese and other Asians start the evening meal at 8-9pm, although Indonesians have an aversion to dining early.



Bon Appétit

In most countries the signal to start eating is given by the host or hostess.

In France, for example, it is *bon appétit*, in Germany *guten Appetit*, and so on.

In Japan you should not attack a dish without complimenting your hostess on her artistry.



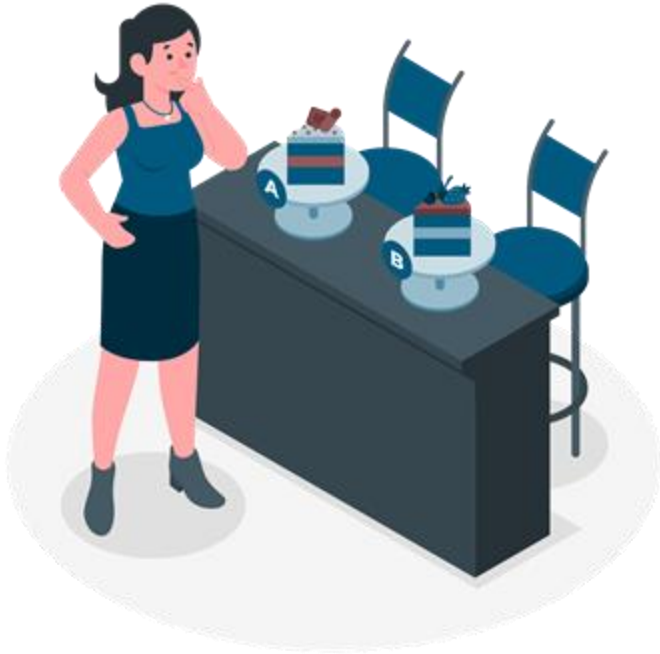
- ❑ Anglo-Saxons are used to eating three courses – starters, main dish, and dessert.
- ❑ The French, serve many side dishes such as lettuce, haricot verts, endives, asparagus, and artichoke separately
- ❑ The British tend to put as much as they can on one plate.
- ❑ In Asia one can lose count of the number of dishes, although in China they will be placed on the table five or six at a time.
- ❑ The Japanese, when seeking to impress, can serve a very large number of dishes one after the other, each containing a small, easily digestible amount.

Customs

- ❑ According to the customs of the country, meals may be taken sitting or at table, on the floor, or on the ground.
- ❑ In Arab countries one usually eats with the hand – the right one – as the left is reserved for 'dirty' tasks.
- ❑ In Japanese and Arabian households shoes are generally removed and left in the hall.
- ❑ The cuts of meat are handed to you by the host; it is bad manners to take a piece yourself or to decline the piece he offers you, no matter how big.



Main courses



Main courses around the world are too numerous and varied. Despite anything, International travellers should eat as much as they can, to avoid offending their hosts.

Even though you may not consider what you are eating a delicacy, your host is most likely offering the best, so you should try to follow the good manners of the host country.

Cocktail Parties

There are no fixed rules for cocktail parties, which in themselves are often interesting exercises in cross-cultural behaviour. No one is quite sure what is the best time to arrive, the best time to leave and how long the party should last.



Cocktail Parties

- ❑ American businesspeople can get so involved in discussing deals over drinks that they sometimes forget they are at a party, never mind the time. Latins can talk forever.
- ❑ British, Germans, Dutch, Swiss and Japanese are relatively disciplined cocktail party leavers, but the same cannot be said for Danes, Scots, Slavs and Irish.
- ❑ In Asia it is the duty of a host to end a party; in Europe and the United States it usually depends on the guest.



Restaurant Behavior

Restaurant entertaining plays an important part in the life of the international businessperson. The choice between entertaining at home or at a restaurant depends on varying circumstances. American, British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand hosts are quick to open their homes to foreign visitors.

Nowhere is dining out more popular than in Japan, because Japanese and other Asians consider that the relative smallness of their homes.



Ethnic Cuisines

It is as well to remember that some national cuisines are best represented outside their country of origin. This is certainly true of Russian food, for which Russian restaurants in Paris, Helsinki and Stockholm set standards nearly impossible to reach at establishments within the former Soviet Union. However, it is often a good idea to ask the guests which ethnic type of meal they prefer.



Manners in Society

Manners are not what they used to be!

- ❑ If some of England's colonies scrapped the tenets of correct behavior held by the mother country, others imitated them well into the twentieth century.
- ❑ The Anglo-Saxons, along with the Scandinavians, are probably the most informal societies in the early twenty-first century.
- ❑ The Japanese lead the world in standards of politeness, while Asians in general display consistent courtesy to foreigners and to each other.
- ❑ In Europe, social ease fluctuates from Spanish warmth and Italian flexibility to Swiss pedantry and German righteousness; the French are probably the most formal of the Europeans.



Gift Giving

Something ethnic and tasteful from your own country is the safest (prints, ceramics, a specialty from your own region, illustrated books and so on).

More important is the thought behind the gift!



When in Rome, Do as the Romans Do

- ❑ The Japanese apologize regularly for personal defects, minor transgressions and other;
- ❑ Japan, Korea and some other countries men walk in front of women and precede them up and down stairs;
- ❑ In Russia it is polite to make a short speech with every toast;
- ❑ Russian people don't answer other people's telephones - they just let them ring;



- ❑ In Thailand, a pale face is a sign of beauty in a woman (don't ask if she is unwell);
- ❑ In Asia one generally wraps up presents in red paper; white, on the other hand, is an unlucky color associated with death.

Taboos

Madagascar again leads the field with a bewildering list of forbidden practices:

- Pregnant women may not eat brains or sit in doorways;
- Children may not say their father's name or refer to any part of his body.

Closer to Europe, Ukrainians (as well as) Russians also have an impressive list:

- Coats should not be worn indoors;
- It is bad form to stand with your hands in your pockets;
- You should not sit with your legs apart;
- No whistling in the street.

In **Indonesia** the head is regarded as a sacred, inviolable part of the body and should not be touched by another.

In **Korea** well-brought-up young people do not smoke or drink in front of elders.

In **Arab** countries it is taboo:

- to drink alcohol;
- eat pork or to ask about the health of a man's womenfolk;
- Do not openly admire his possessions either, as he may feel obliged to give them to you.



**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENTION!**

