

We are going to learn about English manners and what is considered polite and impolite in England.

Let's start with the example below from the Cambridge English exam on page 25.

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Pieter asks his friend Sami to come to his house for dinner. Tick (✓) the two polite responses to the question.

Pieter: Would you like to come to my house for dinner on Sunday, Sami?

Sami:

1. No, I can't. ❌
2. Thanks, that's a lovely idea. ✓
3. I'm afraid I'm busy then. ✓
4. No, I wouldn't like to. ❌

How to turn an impolite answer into a polite one

1) No, I can't. ❌

4) No, I wouldn't like to. ❌

1) - Sorry, I can't but thank you.
- I can't on Sunday but maybe some other day?

4) - I wish I could but I can't.
- I'd love to but I have to study on Sunday.
- That sounds great but I can't.

How to be polite in English. Read the comic strip below.

