

Advice for Foreign Travellers- Zero Conditional with Imperative and Modals

Complete one of the sentences below with an imperative (“ask...” etc), negative imperative (“don’t...”) or a modal (“(really) should”, “can”, “could (possibly)”, “have to”, “don’t have to”, etc) to make what you think is good advice for a person from abroad who is visiting this country for the first time. Does your partner agree with your advice? If so, can they add any similar advice? If they don’t agree, can your partner make similar but better advice?

Useful phrases for responding to your partner’s advice

I (totally) agree.

That may be a good idea, but I would say...

I’m not sure I’d say that. How about...?

I think that’s a bit too strong. I’d change it to...

Transport

- If you don’t know how much your train ticket costs,...
- If someone falls asleep on your shoulder in the train,...
- If the pedestrian crossing light is red but there are no cars coming,...
- If the train is totally full but you really need to get on,...
- If you are standing right inside the train doors,...
- If you get on the train with a backpack,...
- If no one sits next to you on a crowded train,...

Food and drink

- If there isn’t an English menu,...
- If you are sharing one bottle,...
- If you can’t use chopsticks very well,...
- If you get really good service,...
- When shop or restaurant staff thank you and bow to you,...
- If you don’t want to drink too much,...

- If a restaurant says you can't come in without an introduction,...

Language

- If someone doesn't understand you when you speak in English,...
- If someone stares at you silently after you say something,...

Business

- If you exchange business cards,...
- If a business contact bows when they meet you,...
- If you are visiting someone's office,...

Other topics

- If it starts raining and you don't have an umbrella,...
- If you don't want to walk on the escalator,...
- If you want to make Japanese friends,...
- If you get lost,...
- If you want to bargain over prices,...

Language presentation and freer practice

Without looking at the instructions above, brainstorm all the possible forms which could go after one of the phrases above. Then use similar forms to give advice on other topics.