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## Level 5 – 30th December 2024

### Coughing and sneezing most annoying behaviour on trains

**FREE** online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241230-annoying-behaviour-on-trains-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241230-annoying-behaviour-on-trains-5.html>

A recent study from a Japanese railway association shows that coughing and sneezing were the biggest annoyances on trains. A total of 5,314 passengers responded to a survey on behaviour and manners on trains and at stations. "Coughing and sneezing without consideration for others" topped the list of passenger gripes. The association said the effects of the coronavirus pandemic "may have ingrained the importance of consideration for others as a norm". It added: "People...feel greater anxiety than before the pandemic when someone nearby coughs or sneezes without...a mask."

The railway association has conducted polls since 1999 to gauge passengers' opinions. It hopes to promote better behaviour on trains. In addition to coughing and sneezing, other sources of irritation on trains included people stretching their legs, people not moving over to make space, and noisy conversations. Strong scents from perfume and "poor manners during boarding and alighting such as blocking doors" were fourth and fifth on the list. The number of people on Japan's trains increased this year due to more tourists visiting Japan.

Sources: <https://www.msn.com/en-xl/news/other/coughing-sneezing-chosen-as-most-annoying-behavior-on-trains-for-1st-time-japan-survey/ar-AA1woeTD>  
<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20241223/p2a/00m/0na/018000c>  
<https://www.timeout.com/tokyo/news/survey-these-are-japans-most-annoying-train-behaviours-011624>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241230-annoying-behaviour-on-trains-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. a Japanese railway             | a. of consideration    |
| 2. the biggest annoyances         | b. to a survey         |
| 3. passengers responded           | c. of passenger gripes |
| 4. sneezing without consideration | d. association         |
| 5. topped the list                | e. anxiety             |
| 6. ingrained the importance       | f. for others          |
| 7. People feel greater            | g. coughs or sneezes   |
| 8. when someone nearby            | h. on trains           |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The railway association has | a. better behaviour     |
| 2. gauge passengers'           | b. from perfume         |
| 3. It hopes to promote         | c. opinions             |
| 4. other sources of            | d. due to more tourists |
| 5. people stretching           | e. irritation on trains |
| 6. Strong scents               | f. and alighting        |
| 7. manners during boarding     | g. conducted polls      |
| 8. increased this year         | h. their legs           |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241230-annoying-behaviour-on-trains-5.html>

A recent study from a Japanese (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that coughing and sneezing were the biggest annoyances on trains. A total of 5,314 passengers (2) \_\_\_\_\_ survey on behaviour and manners on trains and at stations. "Coughing and sneezing without consideration (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the list of passenger gripes. The association said the effects of the coronavirus pandemic "(4) \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of consideration for others (5) \_\_\_\_\_". It added: "People...feel greater anxiety than before the pandemic when (6) \_\_\_\_\_ or sneezes without...a mask."

The railway association has (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 1999 to gauge passengers' opinions. It hopes to promote better behaviour on trains. In (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and sneezing, other sources of irritation on trains included people (9) \_\_\_\_\_, people not moving over to make space, and noisy conversations. Strong (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and "poor manners during boarding and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ blocking doors" were fourth and fifth on the list. The number of people on Japan's trains increased this year (12) \_\_\_\_\_ tourists visiting Japan.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241230-annoying-behaviour-on-trains-5.html>

A recent study from a Japanese railway association shows that coughing and sneezing were the biggest annoyances on trains. A total of 5,314 passengers responded to a survey on behaviour and manners on trains and at stations. "Coughing and sneezing without consideration for others" topped the list of passenger gripes. The association said the effects of the coronavirus pandemic "may have ingrained the importance of consideration for others as a norm". It added: "People... feel greater anxiety than before the pandemic when someone nearby coughs or sneezes without... a mask." The railway association has conducted polls since 1999 to gauge passengers' opinions. It hopes to promote better behaviour on trains. In addition to coughing and sneezing, other sources of irritation on trains included people stretching their legs, people not moving over to make space, and noisy conversations. Strong scents from perfume and "poor manners during boarding and alighting such as blocking doors" were fourth and fifth on the list. The number of people on Japan's trains increased this year due to more tourists visiting Japan.

# ANNOYING PEOPLE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241230-annoying-behaviour-on-trains-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about annoying people in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

