Rule #1

When responding to any adult, you must answer by saying, “Yes, Ma’am” or “No, sir.” It’s not acceptable to just nod one’s head or say only yes or no

Activity #1

1. “Is there a reason why you are late for class?” said Mrs. Jones, the math teacher.

Kid A: “Yes, my locker was stuck. Sorry.”

Kid B: “I guess so.”

Kid C: “Yes ma’am. I could open my locker. I’m really sorry”

2. “You wanted to see me?” asked Ms Carlson, the guidance counselor.

Kid A: “Yes. Can you help me figure out what to do after graduation?”

Kid B: “Yes ma’am. I was hoping you could help me make plans for after graduation.”

Kid C: “Yeah. What can you do for me?”

3. “I need help getting your baby brother ready for day care,” said Stan’s mom. “Can you give me a hand?”

Kid A: “ If I have to.”

Kid B: “Sure, Mom. In a minute.”

Kid C: “Of course, Mom. What do you need?”

4. “Could you tell me why you’d like to work at the record store?” asked Mr. Drew during a job interview

Kid A: “Well, sir, I think your store is really great, and I know a lot about music”

Kid B: “Well, it would be really cool. A lot of my friends shop here.”

Kid C: “This place is the best! You play the best music!”

5. (from the same interview) “Thank you. We’ll be in touch,” Mr. Drew said shaking the teens hand.

Kid A: “Great! Talk to you soon!”

Kid B: “Thank you, sir. It was nice meeting you.”

Kid C: “Do you think I have the job?”

6. “Hello, Janet! I hope you enjoyed the book your grandmother and I gave you for your birthday,” said Janet’s grandfather

Kid A: “No, sir. I haven’t had a chance to read it. But thanks so much!”

Kid B: “Nope. No time. See ya!”

Kid C: “No, its still sitting on my shelf. It looks interesting, though.”

7. “I’m glad you came to visit, Max,” said Aunt Helen

Kid A: “It was fun. Thanks!”

Kid B: “You have a great house, Aunt Helen. Thanks for inviting me.”

Kid C: “Sure, no problem.”

8. “Can I help you?” asked the woman who worked at the shoe store.

Kid A: “No.”

Kid B: “We’ll call you when we need you.”

Kid C: “No, thank you. We’re just browsing.”

9. “Could someone please explain to me why you need to make so much noise?” said Mrs. Myers, the next-door neighbor.

Kid A: “We’re sorry, ma’am. We’ll try to keep it down.”

Kid B: “Sorry. We’ll turn down the music.”

Kid C: “If you don’t like it, too bad.”

10. “Can I help you?” Asked the media specialist at the library.

Kid A: “Yeah. I need a video on volcanoes

Kid B: “Yes, sir. I’m looking for a video on volcanoes. Can you help me?”

Kid C: “Yes! I’m looking for volcano videos. Do you have any?”

Score:

**25-30**: Good Job! You’re usually very polite to adults. You know when to say “sir” or “ma’am” and you speak to adults with respect.

**17-24**: Not bad! You could still use some work, though, in being polite and respectful. Try to throw in a few more “sirs” and “ma’ams.”

**10-16**: You need some work when you talk to adults. Your responses are abrupt and impolite. Try to think about how you would like adults to talk to you. They’ll be more respectful if you are more respectful of them