

GRANTING AND REFUSING PERMISSION

A2-B1 | Functional language for saying yes or no politely

1 Useful phrase patterns

Use these phrases to give permission or refuse a request politely.

Sure, go ahead.

Sure, go ahead and use it.

Of course.

Of course. That's fine.

That's fine.

That's fine with me.

Yes, you can.

Yes, you can borrow it.

I'm sorry, but ...

I'm sorry, but it is not possible.

I'd rather you didn't.

I'd rather you didn't use it.

Please don't ...

Please don't leave it there.

I'm afraid not.

I'm afraid not. It is private.

2 Respond to the situations

Write one suitable response for each request. Try to use a range of phrases.

1. A classmate asks to borrow your dictionary.

2. A friend asks to use your phone for a quick call.

3. A colleague asks to open a window.

4. A visitor asks to sit in an empty chair.

5. A friend asks to use your laptop, but it has private work on it.

6. Someone asks to smoke in your home.

7. A classmate asks to copy your homework.

8. A visitor asks to enter a room marked private.

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A2-B1 | Suggested answers

3

Possible answers

These are examples only. Other accurate and suitable responses are also correct.

Encourage students to use a range of phrase patterns from page 1.

1. Sure, go ahead and borrow my dictionary.

2. Of course. You can use my phone for a quick call.

3. That's fine. Please open the window.

4. Yes, you can sit in that chair.

5. I'm sorry, but there's private work on my laptop.

6. I would rather you didn't smoke in my home.

7. I am sorry, but please don't copy my homework.

8. I am afraid not. That room is private.
