Achievement Tests

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Date:

PART I: READING

1.1 Read the passage about the Dominican Republic. Check (\checkmark) the best prediction of what the reading is about. There is only one right answer.

For a great vacation, come to the Caribbean and visit the Dominican Republic. This island country has very beautiful beaches. A cheap and fun way to travel from beach to beach is to take a "guagua." A guagua is a small, privately owned bus. Many Dominicans take guaguas, and you can meet some locals. But before you go, there are some things you should know.

_____ A. how to save money

_____ **B.** how to take a guagua

_____ C. how to meet locals

D. how to find good beaches

1.2 Now read the entire article. Use the information to choose the correct answers.

Taking a Guagua

For a great vacation, come to the Caribbean and visit the Dominican Republic. This island country has very beautiful beaches. A cheap and fun way to travel from beach to beach is to take a "guagua." A guagua is a small, privately owned bus. Many Dominicans take guaguas, and you can meet some locals. But before you go, there are some things you should know.

First, there are no guagua stations. These buses drive on busy streets. If you see a guagua and you want to get in, wave your hand and the guagua will stop, like a taxi. You don't have to stand in line for a guagua.

Guaguas are often crowded. If the guagua is very full, gently push by the people who are blocking the entrance. As many as 20 people will ride in one guagua with 12 seats! If the guagua is too full, you have to wait for the next one.

People on guaguas love to talk to each other. When you get on the guagua, it is good manners to greet the other people on the bus. Say "*buen día*" (good day) to them. It is also fine to make eye contact with other people and talk to them. On a crowded guagua, just don't blow your nose loudly; that is impolite. It is also rude to leave any litter on the guagua.

Guaguas are usually very cheap. The driver will tell you the fare when you get on. Pay the driver during the trip, not when you get off. You don't have to leave a tip for the driver.

Because guaguas are privately and not publicly owned, you can't always rely on them. The good thing is, if you forget your bag on a guagua, sometimes the driver will turn around and bring it back to you. What a civilized country!

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Check (\checkmark) the best answer to complete each sentence.

1. The information in this article is probably for _____

- _____ A. taxi drivers
- B. tourists
- _____ C. travel agents
- ____ D. locals
- 2. It is ______ to stand in line for a guagua.
 - _____ A. unnecessary
 - ____ B. uncivilized
 - ____ C. polite
 - ____ D. rude
- 3. Many guaguas are _____
 - _____ A. full of litter
 - _____ B. expensive
 - ____ C. quiet
 - _____ D. crowded
- 4. The author's opinion about guaguas is _____
 - _____ A. completely negative
 - _____ B. completely positive
 - _____ C. mostly negative
 - _____ D. mostly positive
- 5. One thing the author likes about guaguas is that they _____
 - _____ **A.** are publicly owned
 - _____ B. stop at stations
 - _____ C. sometimes return bags
 - _____ **D.** are free for locals

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Achievement Tests: Unit 5 (continued)

1.3 Read the passage from "Riding the Subway in Japan" in NorthStar: Reading and Writing 2, Unit 5. Use the information from this reading and "Taking a Guagua" to complete the activity. The first one has been done for you.

Riding the Subway in Japan

I was in my second year of living in Tokyo. I thought I was a real expert in Japanese etiquette and culture.

I knew that I had to push gently onto the subway cars. I knew that I shouldn't make eye contact with people. I knew that blowing my nose loudly "American style" was very rude. And I knew that I shouldn't talk to people on the subway. That wasn't a problem, because my Japanese wasn't that good.

But one day, I was riding home from work on the subway and I remembered that I needed to call a friend about meeting for dinner. I took out my new cell phone and called her. Of course, if you know the Tokyo subway, you know that there are "no cell phones" signs everywhere. But I also noticed that many passengers used their phones on the subway. I thought that the no cell phones rule in Japan was like the no food rule on the New York City subway. It's a rule, but no one follows it, and no one enforces it.

As I was talking, other passengers looked at me sideways like Japanese people do when they think you are being rude. One elderly woman shook her head and looked straight at me.

I finished my conversation, and I got off the train. I was very confused. Japanese people use their phones. Why can't I do the same? I asked myself.

Later that evening, I told my friend about the experience. She smiled. "The sign says *no talking*," she said. "The others are all text messaging¹ or playing games on their phones. Sometimes they check their voicemail. Occasionally they whisper² a very short message to someone on a cell phone. But they never have whole conversations on their phones in the subway."

I was embarrassed.³ I still had a lot to learn. Even though I knew a lot of Japanese habits, I was still American.

² whisper: speak very quietly

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text messaging: sending a written message on a cell phone

³ embarrassed: feeling ashamed; feeling like you did something stupid

Achievement Tests: Unit 5 (continued)

Name:

Transportation Rule	The Tokyo Subway	Guaguas	Both
Pay the fare during your trip.		1	
I. Don't blow your nose loudly.			
2. Say hello to the other passengers.			~
 Don't make eye contact with people. 			
4. Push gently when it is crowded.			

PART 2: VOCABULARY

2.1 Read the letter to a Chicago newspaper. Use the words from the box to fill in the blanks. Not all of the words will be used.

blew his nose	enforce	litter	polite	wait their turn
 elderly	etiquette	make eye contact	rude	

I take the 8A bus to Woodson Library some days. I think the other passengers on

this bus line have no manners. They never ______ to get on the

bus—they just push past me. I'm _____; last week was my 85th

birthday! I think it is ______ for young people to treat me that way.

There is a rule about letting senior citizens on first, but the drivers never

_____ it.

The other problem is all the ______ people leave on the buses. I always see candy wrappers and empty bags of chips on the floor. The other day, someone ______ and left the dirty tissue on the seat next to him_____ unbelievable!

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Achievement Tests: Unit 5 (continued)

Name:

2.2 These sentences do not make sense. Replace the underlined word or phrase with its antonym (opposite) from the box so the sentences make sense. Not all of the words will be used.

an exception	blocking	greet	stood in line
a tip	followed the rules	rely on	

1. I don't have a car, so I can live without the bus.

2. Many people were waiting to buy tickets, so I went to the front.

3. As a rule the bus runs 24 hours, but holidays are a normal situation.

4. I couldn't get off the bus because two elderly women were clearing the way.

PART 3: SKILLS FOR WRITING

3.1 Rewrite these rules or suggestions for polite behavior, using the imperative.

You should buy a ticket from the machine.

Buy a ticket from the machine.

- 1. It is polite to greet other passengers on the guagua.
- 2. You shouldn't put your feet up on the seat.
- 3. It is rude to block the door.
- 4. It is good manners to thank the bus driver.

5. It is against the rules to bring food on the bus.

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Name:

3.2 Read the list of air travel rules. Correct rules 1–5 so they use parallel structure. Follow the structure of the example.

Air Travel Rules	
Print your boarding pass at home if possible.	
I. You should show your passport to ticket agents.	
2. You shouldn't bring more than 100 pounds of luggage.	
3. Please, no smoking in the airport.	
4. You need to take off your shoes at the security check.	
5. It is against the rules to bring a gun into the airport.	1999-000 (1973)

PART 4: WRITING

An Informative Paragraph (20 minutes)

Write a paragraph about etiquette for riding in a form of transportation or being in a public place in a country you know.

- Tell the reader which country you will talk about.
- Write rules for using a form of transportation in that country.
- Give examples of good and bad behavior.
- Use "you" and not "I" to give clear information.
- Use the vocabulary and grammar from Unit 5.

be against the rules blocking blow your nose civilized	elderly enforce exception greet	impolite litter make eye contact with manners	polite rely on rude sneeze	stand in line wait one's turr
	Unit 5 Gran	nmar: Imperative Sent	ences	

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