

Introduction

Focus Questions

Some characters in this textbook feel comfortable handling private property that belongs to someone else; others feel uncomfortable doing the same thing. They easily chat about some topics but choose not to discuss others. Like Gilles, Roshan, and Claire, most of us also have unspoken and unseen boundaries, or limits, in both our conversations and our physical space.

Who is allowed to come into your space and use your belongings?

How comfortable are you when people open or use the things or enter the places listed in the table below?

1. Use a checkmark to show the kinds of relationships in which you are comfortable sharing the things and spaces that are listed.

I think these items or spaces can be touched or entered by only me	... people in a close personal relationship with me	... some familiar people	... anyone, including unfamiliar people
My cellphone				
My bag, purse, or wallet				
My pencil case				
My laptop				
My fridge				
My usual chair				
My bedroom				

Who do you talk with about certain topics?

How comfortable are you when people discuss the topics listed in the table below?

Use a checkmark to show the kinds of relationships in which you are comfortable talking about the topics that are listed.

I think these topics can be talked about in relationships that are <u>intimate</u>	... <u>personal</u>	... familiar and public	... unfamiliar and public
My weight				
My age				
My conflicts with family, friends, or partners				
My love interests or relationship status				

2. Imagine that you hear a singer at a festival. You don't like the singing or music at all.

If the following people asked your opinion about the music, how would you answer?

Write the words you would say to each person.

Who is asking?	What would you say?
1. The singer, whom you just met for the first time	
2. The singer, who is a friend of yours	
3. Your best friend, who also heard the singer	
4. The festival organizer	
5. A music reviewer or blogger	
6. An anonymous festival survey or suggestion box	