

Select Readings, Second Edition Elementary, Chapter 4 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

That's Close Enough!

Do you know what 'personal space' is? Your personal space is like an imaginary¹ box that goes around your whole body. This space shows how close you let people stand in front of you when they talk to you. Most people feel uncomfortable² when someone goes inside their personal space.

How big is your personal space? Is your 'box' always the same size? Does your personal space show how you feel about other people?

In fact, each person has a different size personal space. The size of your personal space may depend on who you are talking to and what you are talking about. The box is larger when you talk to a stranger, and it gets smaller when you know the person better. A boyfriend and girlfriend may have very small personal space boxes. But a man and woman who don't know each other may have very large personal spaces.

To see the size of your own personal space, try paying attention³ when you talk to other people. Move closer to the other person as you talk, and see when you start to feel uncomfortable. Do this with different people and when you talk about different things, and see if your personal space changes.

Most people do not like others to come into their personal space. When two people have an argument⁴, one of the people usually goes into the other's personal space. Many people feel angry when this happens. But if one person steps away, the angry feeling starts to leave.

Personal space may also be different in other cultures. For example, the personal space for people from Japan may be much larger than the personal space for people from Italy or France, where many people hug or kiss when they greet each other.

The next time you talk to someone, look at your personal space. It may tell you a lot about how you feel about the other person.

1. The passage says that personal space is like a 'box' that _____.
 - A. stands in front of you
 - B. goes around your head when you are talking
 - C. is very large
 - D. goes around your whole body
2. If someone comes into your personal space while talking, you may start to feel _____.
 - A. acceptable
 - B. common
 - C. traditional
 - D. uncomfortable

¹ **imaginary** not real, made up

² **uncomfortable** a little nervous or embarrassed

³ **paying attention** thinking and watching

⁴ **argument** a small fight

3. If two people have very small personal space boxes, they _____.
 - A. don't usually talk to each other
 - B. stand very close to each other when talking
 - C. talk to each other every day
 - D. stand far from each other when talking

4. All of these statements are true about the size of people's personal space boxes EXCEPT: _____.
 - A. Each person's box is the same size.
 - B. The size of the box changes when talking to different people.
 - C. Each person's box is a different size.
 - D. The size of the box changes when talking about different things.

5. The size of your personal space box _____ who you are talking to.
 - A. is a situation
 - B. depends on
 - C. is the way
 - D. changes

6. A boyfriend and girlfriend may have small personal space boxes _____ they know each other well.
 - A. so
 - B. cause
 - C. though
 - D. because

7. Two strangers may have a _____ space between them because they don't know each other well.
 - A. firm
 - B. large
 - C. casual
 - D. close

8. When two people are having an argument, one person usually gets _____ to the other.
 - A. closer
 - B. formal
 - C. firm
 - D. hugging

9. All of these countries are in the passage EXCEPT _____.
 - A. France
 - B. Japan
 - C. India
 - D. Italy

10. The passage says that in Japan, _____.
 - A. personal space may be larger than in other cultures
 - B. personal space is the same as in most other cultures
 - C. people generally hug or kiss when greeting each other
 - D. people don't usually greet each other