

# Signs and Symbols



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## Warm Up



What does your flag symbolize?

# Signs and Symbols

## Introduction

A **symbol** is a mark, sign, or word that indicates, signifies, or is understood as **representing an idea, object, or relationship**.

Symbols take the form of **words, sounds, gestures, ideas or visual images** and are used to convey other ideas and beliefs.

Signs and symbols are very common in real life, and it is important to understand the meaning behind them.



**Why do you think we need to understand signs and symbols?**

# Signs and Symbols

## National Symbols

Symbols represent a wide variety of things. When people see a particular symbol, they associate it with something meaningful or standard. With this, each country has their own national symbols to identify themselves from others and to unite its citizens through nationalism.

What is your national...	Your country	Your Teacher	Symbolism (if any)
Anthem			
Flower			
Animal			
Clothing			
Sport			
Fish			
Dish			
Tree			
Other			

# Signs and Symbols

## 9 famous symbols

A great thing with symbols is that they are made to be as simple to understand as possible. The symbols above are nine of the most famous symbols.

Match the words with the pictures and discuss.



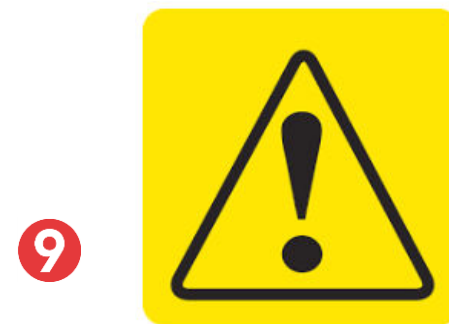
Biohazard Symbol	Hammer and Sickle	Jolly Roger Symbol
Peace Symbol	Smiley Symbol	Gender Symbol
Recycling Symbol	Anarchy Symbol	Caduceus Medical Symbol

# Signs and Symbols

## Finding Signs

Where might you see these signs?

What could be the dangers of not knowing what these signs mean?



# Signs and Symbols

## Vocabulary Preview

Match the words with the correct meaning on the right.

*pedestrian*  
*depict*  
*campaign*  
*unveil*  
*rationale*  
*initiate*  
*inclusive*  
*scheme*  
*equity*  
*derision*

1. a state of being laughed at or ridiculed
2. to represent by or as if by a picture
3. justice according to natural law or right; specifically : freedom from bias or favoritism
4. going or performed on foot
5. an explanation of controlling principles of opinion, belief, practice, or phenomena
6. a plan or program of action
7. to cause or facilitate the beginning of
8. a connected series of military operations forming a distinct phase of a war
9. to make public
10. comprehending stated limits or extremes

## Reading Exercise

### Traffic Signals

Gender equality has reached the small human characters on traffic signals in Australia. Signals at ten **pedestrian** crossings in the city of Melbourne now **depict** walking red and green people in dresses. The **initiative** is part of a trial 12-month gender equality **campaign unveiled** by the city. The Minister for Women, Fiona Richardson, explained that the **rationale** behind the trial was to put more images of women in public places. She said: "There are many small, but symbolically significant ways that women are excluded from public space. This is a wonderful way to make public space more **inclusive** for women." She hopes the city's signals will have equal numbers of male and female figures in the future.

The new signals have drawn a mixed response from citizens. Many critics say the new **scheme** is unnecessary and a waste of taxpayers' money. A leading critic is Melbourne's mayor Robert Doyle, who told reporters: "I'm all for doing anything we can for gender **equity**, but really?" He added: "Unfortunately, I think this sort of costly exercise is more likely to bring **derision**." Others said the new images were a sign of political correctness gone crazy. Social media users asked why the image of the woman has to wear a dress, when many women wear trousers. Others said the money could have been better used for worthier projects that helped people in need.

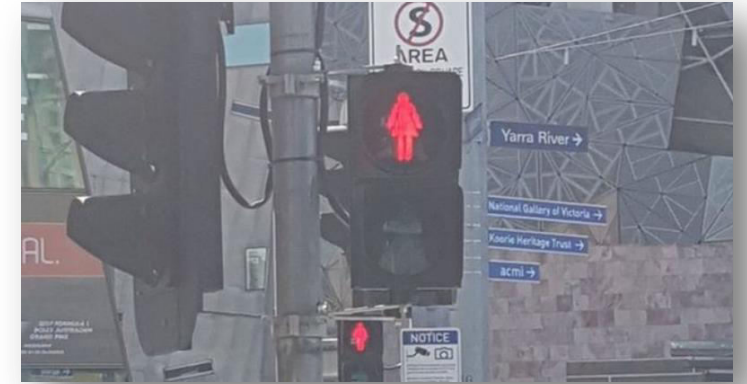


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## Reading Comprehension

### True or False

1. There are 10 new female pedestrian traffic signals in Melbourne.
2. The traffic signals are part of a year-long trial.
3. The idea is to have more images of women in public places.
4. Men cannot cross at the female traffic signals.
5. The new signals are overwhelmingly popular.
6. The mayor of Melbourne said the signals are good for his city.
7. Many people say the signals are a good example of political correctness.
8. Social media users said the money should help people in need.



### Free Response

- Should pedestrian traffic signals show male and female images?
- Are images of people the best things to have on traffic signals?
- How could signals at pedestrian crossings be improved?
- What would the reaction be in your town to this scheme?

# Signs and Symbols

## Watch yourself

There are some gestures that might be misunderstood abroad.  
What do these gestures mean in your country? Are they offensive? Discuss.

1



2



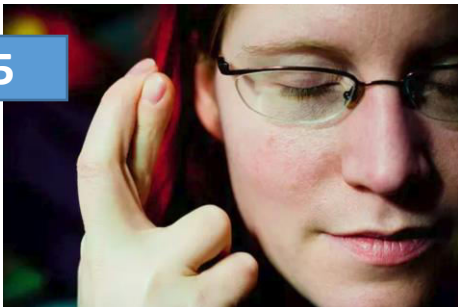
3



4



5



6



7



8



Source:

<https://www.buzzfeed.com/gabrielakruschewsky/simple-gestures-that-might-be-highly-misunderstood-abroad>

# Signs and Symbols

## Grammar Chunk

### MODAL AUXILIARIES

#### Present - Should vs. Must

SHOULD - expresses advisability, a suggestion. *"It is advisable to..."* or *"This is a suggestion..."* It is weaker than *must*. *Should* is followed by a plain form verb.

SHOULD

PLAIN FORM VERB

Example: Customers **should bring** re-usable bags when shopping.

MUST - We use **must** to express a stronger point of view. *"We need to..."* *"We have to..."* The modal **must** also expresses opinion, one person's point of view.

MUST

PLAIN FORM VERB

Example: Customers **must pay** for paper bags if they do not bring their own bags when shopping.

# Signs and Symbols

## Grammar Chunk

### MODAL AUXILIARIES

Choose the letter of the answer.



- a) You must turn right.
- b) You must go straight on or turn left.



- a) You must give way to cars on the roundabout.
- b) You can go on the roundabout when there is another car.



- a) You mustn't park your car here.
- b) You must park here.



- a) You must drive very slowly because there are children.
- b) You must always stop.



- a) You must stop when someone is crossing.
- b) You can stop when someone is crossing.



- a) You can drive very fast.
- b) You must slow down.



- a) You must drive on the right.
- b) You must drive on the left.
- c) You can drive in the middle of the road.



- a) You must stop when there is a car coming.
- b) You must always stop.

# Signs and Symbols

## Grammar Chunk

### MODAL AUXILIARIES

Complete the sentences: **SHOULD - SHOULDN'T / MUST - MUSTN'T**



1. The museum rules say that \_\_\_\_\_.



2. You \_\_\_\_\_ in the library.



3. This is an \_\_\_\_\_ exit. You \_\_\_\_\_ leave the bicycles here.



4. People \_\_\_\_\_ smoke in \_\_\_\_\_ places.



5. We \_\_\_\_\_ there, it is forbidden.



6. You \_\_\_\_\_ the car.



7. Passengers \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_.



8. Tourists \_\_\_\_\_ throw \_\_\_\_\_ on the street.

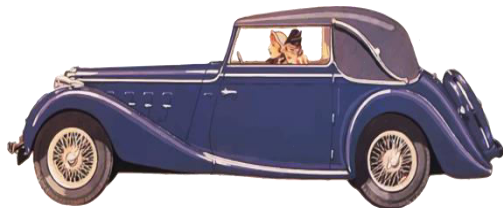
# Signs and Symbols

## Idiomatic Expressions

What do think they mean?



Nobody looks up from their mobile phones anymore. I guess it's just a *sign of the times*.



She doesn't even drive; that car of hers is purely a *status symbol*.



He is thinking favorably about going with us to Canada, but he hasn't *signed on the bottom line*.



The killer *signed his own death warrant* when he walked into the police station and gave himself up.

# Signs and Symbols

## Speaking Drill

1. Where do you see signs?
2. Can you identify common symbols by sight?
3. Do people in your country appropriately respond to signs?
4. What happens if people don't understand a sign?
5. What punishment is given to those who disobey signs and warnings?
6. Is it easy to find parking in your country?
7. Do people usually obey traffic signals in your country?
8. What are the laws about seat belts in your country?
9. Is it acceptable to honk in your country?
10. Should the images be of a unisex figure?
11. If you could make a symbol of yourself, what would it be and why?

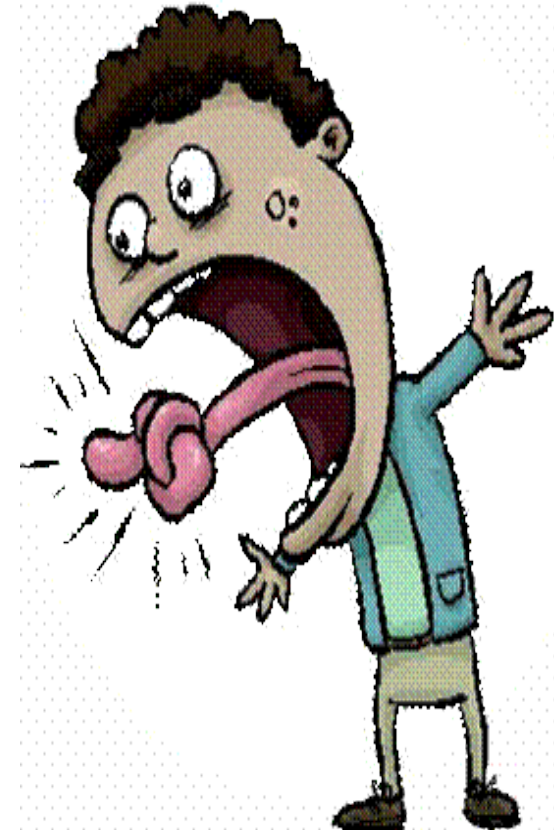
# Signs and Symbols

## Pronunciation Drills

### Tongue Twisters

*Dr. Johnson and Mr. Johnson, after great consideration, came to the conclusion that the Indian nation beyond the Indian Ocean is back in education because the chief occupation is cultivation.*

*I slit a sheet, a sheet I slit, upon a slitted sheet I sit.*





# Signs and Symbols

## Pronunciation Drills

### Minimal Pairs - Sentences

Mad	Made
Can	Cane
Hat	Hate
Rat	Rate
Stag	Stage
Bit	Bite
Pin	Pine

Hug	Huge
Cub	Cube
Not	Note
Rob	Robe
Cot	Coat
Rip	Ripe
Kit	Kite

The End