

## Grammar 2: Usage Assignment 11

- Study all of the chapters contained in Unit 1 and take Unit 1 Test, Test A and B (not C). These are the directions: *Circle the letter before the underlined pronoun that is incorrect. If you do not get at least an 80% in the test, you will have to take another test.*
- Complete Chapter 10 test. Complete Lesson 11 (except the test).
- Please read Censor's exhortations about table manners (next two pages) before you present yourself at the Thanksgiving dinner table next year!





with your knife, and then cart it, as it were, to your mouth. Take up on the fork what it can easily carry, and no more.

DON'T use a steel knife with fish. A silver knife is now placed by the side of each plate for the fish course.

DON'T handle fork or knife awkwardly. Let the handles of both knife and fork rest in the palm of the hand. How to handle knife and fork well can be acquired only by observation and practice. Don't stab with the fork, or handle it as if it were a dagger.

DON'T eat fast, or gorge. Take always plenty of time. Haste is vulgar.

DON'T take huge mouthfuls, or fill your mouth with too much food ;

and don't masticate audibly. Eat quietly and easily.

DON'T put your knife into the butter, into the salt-cellar, or into any dish.

DON'T spread out your elbows when you are cutting your meat. Keep your elbows close to your side.

DON'T, when you drink, elevate your glass as if you were going to stand it inverted on your nose. Bring the glass perpendicularly to the lips, and then lift it to a slight angle. Do this easily.

DON'T eat vegetables with a spoon. Eat them with a fork. The rule is not to eat anything with a spoon that can be eaten with a fork. Even ices are now often eaten with a fork.

DON'T devour the last mouthful of soup, the last fragment of bread, the last morsel of food. It is not expected that your plate should be sent away cleansed by your gastronomic exertions.

DON'T leave your knife and fork on your plate when you send it for a second supply.\*

\* This rule is disputed. One of my critics affirms that the best English usage is exactly the contrary. I have before me directions written by Lord Cholmondeley, a leader of fashion in London a generation or two ago, in which he says, "Be sure never to send your knife and fork when you send your plate to be served a second time." This was written, it is true, a long time ago, but is it likely that English custom can now be directly reversed? The logic of the question proves the correctness of the rule. It is not at all easy to

DON'T reject bits of bone, or other substances, by spitting them back into the plate. Quietly eject them upon your fork, holding it to your lips, and then place them on

place food on a plate already occupied by a knife and fork, and hence to send a plate thus encumbered is to put an obstacle in the way of your host, or whoever acts as carver—and it is a law of politeness to always incommode one's self rather than incommode others. It is asked, What shall one do with his knife and fork? The handles of knives and forks are now always loaded, hence they can rest on the table without the blades or tines touching the cloth ; or one may, with a little skill, hold his knife and fork in his hands without awkwardness. In course dinners it rarely occurs that one has occasion to send for a second portion, and hence the rule is more limited in application than formerly.