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| **TEACHER GUIDE - Relationship Etiquette - Close Reading** | **NOTES** |
| **Instructions:**  ***Circle words you do not know. Try to determine the meaning of the word from the context.***  ***Underline sentences or phrases that you do not understand.*** |  |
| **Primary Source #1** Excerpt from *Manners and Social Usages* (1884)byMary Elizabeth Wilson Sherwood (1830-1903)  *This book was published in several editions in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Mary Sherwood also wrote* The Art of Entertaining *(1892, 1893, and 1894) and Etiquette, the American Code of Manners (1884), several advice books for the home, numerous novels, and articles for* Harper’s Bazaar *magazine. As a young woman, she was the hostess for social events of in her father, a member of Congress, in their Washington D.C. home.*  Bachelors should leave cards on the master and mistress of the house, and, in America, upon the young ladies . . . It is a rule with sticklers for good-breeding that after any entertainment a gentleman should leave his card in person . . . No gentleman should call on a lady unless she asks him to do so, or unless he brings a letter of introduction, or unless he is taken by a lady who is sufficiently intimate to invite him to call. A lady should say to a gentleman, if she wishes him to call, "I hope that we shall see you," or, "I am at home on Monday," or something of that sort. | •What are “cards”?  •Describe a person that is a “sticker for good breeding?  •What are rule for visiting for men?  •What is the rules for women?  •Did everyone follow this advice in 1884?  Why or why not?  For more information and images of visiting or calling cards see <http://teachingwiththemes.com/index.php/visiting-cards/> |
| **Primary Source #2** Excerpt from “Promiscuous Bathing” in *Ladies Home Journal*, August 1890.  Ladies Home Journal *began publication in 1882 and by the early twentieth century became to first American magazine to reach one million subscribers. The magazine provided a wide range of articles and advice to its mostly female, middle class readers.*  “When I see a young man and woman, who have only met at their hotel, emerge from their bathing houses, the man looking like a harlequin in his red and white jersey and short blue trousers, legs and arms perfectly bare; the girl in her costume de bain, made tight, showing every curve, I feel that a protest is in order. A little innocent girl witnessing this asked her mother “If she might take off her dress and play in her underclothes like the ladies did on the beach.” After the swim, these young people settle themselves on the sand, rarely having any chaperon or older person with them.  Our daughters are well bred in virtue, but what about the tired little shop-girl without father or mother or advisor? Can we expect that she will behave as our own tenderly-nurtured children? She is tired and wore out with hard labor and poor food; a day and a night are all she can get of rest from the tread-mill of work. Sick in body, and alas! too often sick in heart, let us give her all the happiness and relaxation we can; but let us hinder, not help her to think that familiarity and license mean recreation . . . The freedom the morning swim introduces grows as the day speeds on. The companions of these girls, “gentlemen friends” as they are called, are generous. They ride, they dance, they flirt, and when night comes, he has his arm around her slim waist, so careless that they do not even care that they are seen. | •What is a bathing house?  A harlequin? *a joker/jester; multicolor clothing*  A costume de bain? *a swimsuit*  •According to the author, what rules of etiquette are the young man and woman NOT following? Cite specific examples from the text.  •Explain this sentence - *Our daughters are well bred in virtue, but what about the tired little shop-girl without father or mother or advisor?*  •What is the author assuming about the “tired little shop girl” that could be incorrect?  •Does the author feel have sympathy for the “tired little shop girl? Why?  •What is the author’s opinion of the gentlemen friends of the “tired little shop girls”? |
| **Primary Source #3** - 1905 song In My Merry Oldsmobile  The words, as sung by Billy Murray in 1909  **Verse 1** Young Johnny Steele has an Oldsmobile He loves his dear little girl She is the queen of his gas machine She has his heart in a whirl Now when they go for a spin, you know, She tries to learn the auto, so He lets her steer, while he gets her ear And whispers soft and low…  **Verse 2** They love to “spark” in the dark old park As they go flying along She says she knows why the motor goes The “sparker” is awfully strong  Each day they “spoon” to the engine’s tune Their honeymoon will happen soon He’ll win Lucille with his Oldsmobile And then he’ll fondly croon… **Chorus** Come away with me, Lucille In my merry Oldsmobile Down the road of life we’ll fly Automobubbling, you and I To the church we’ll swiftly steal Then our wedding bells will peal You can go as far as you like with me In my merry Oldsmobile. | More about this song here - <http://teachingwiththemes.com/index.php/manners-etiquette-more-resources/dating-automobiles/>  Ask students, in pairs or small groups, to examine the analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions. In other words, what is the literal meaning of each line? What are the figurative meanings of these lines?  •Describe how the points of view of the authors of #1 and #2 compare or contrast to the point of view of the author of this song. |
| **Primary Source #4 -** Excerpt from *Hints on Etiquette* (1924) by Esther Floyd in *Little Blue Book No. 556*  *The Little Blue Books were extremely popular educational booklets printed from 1919 to 1978 on hundreds of different topics.*  The warning to girls about going for long motor rides with men alone, sometimes returning after night-fall, has been sounded so often and reinforced by so many “horrible examples,” that is should be superfluous to repeat it here. The mere danger of a girl’s gaining the reputation of not being particular and careful of herself, should be enough, without any direr consequences. It is now quite the common thing in some places for the young man to stop his car in front of the girl’s home and “honk” long and insistently if necessary (it seldom is) till she comes out. He condescends to open the door for her, she enters the car and they drive away. Her parents perhaps hardly know him by sight. He seldom if ever goes into her home – no need, so long as she will come when he “honks.” Girls should not hold themselves so cheaply, and parents should not allow it while the girl is under their control. | • What are the “horrible examples” the author expects the reader to already know?  • Explain this sentence - *The mere danger of a girl’s gaining the reputation of not being particular and careful of herself, should be enough, without any direr consequences.*  • According to the author, why should parents NOT allow a young man honking the horn until their daughter comes out to join him?  • Note the dates of primary sources #1, 2, 3, 4. How many years separate the sources? What events during that period influenced the changes in behavior? |
| **Essential Questions**  **• 1. How are modern relationship manners/etiquette the same or different when compared to the past?**  **• 2. What causes relationship manners/etiquette to change over time?**  **• 3. Do relationship manners/etiquette vary by social class? by sex?** | Ask students to consider these questions in discussion or writing. |

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Additional resources for this lesson in *Exploring Vacation and Etiquette Themes in Social Studies: Primary Source Inquiry for Middle and High School*, <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781475831993>