

1. If something at a yard sale is far more valuable than the posted price, do I have to let the seller know?

A piece of furniture you've been searching for is marked \$25. You know that similar pieces in worse condition have sold for more than 10 times as much. You're under no obligation to correct the seller on her underpricing. One of the beauties of yard sales is such finds. Savor yours.

2. Is it considered stealing to take pens from a bank? What about extra napkins from a fast-food restaurant?

While grabbing a pen isn't necessarily considered stealing, you should just ask the teller if you have any doubts. That said, one pen is OK, but enough to stock your home office isn't (the same goes for napkins). A good rule of thumb: If something feels sneaky, then it probably isn't a good idea.

3. If a charity sends me free address labels and I don't make a contribution, is it OK to use them?

Go right ahead. The labels and the request were unsolicited. Better you should put them to use than toss them in the trash. If it's a cause you believe in and are willing to support, then terrific if you can make a donation as well. But as you affix the labels to your envelopes, you can do so with a clear conscience.

4. Is it unfair to move into better (open) seats at a sporting event or a concert?

There's no harm in seeing if you can move into a better viewing position. But before you do, make sure there's no posted policy against it. And if an usher asks to see your tickets, be prepared to move back to your original seats without argument.

5. My boss gave me credit for a project on which a colleague did most of the work. Should I accept the praise?

Fight the urge to accept the compliment wholeheartedly. It's unfair for your colleague not to get the kudos he deserves. But you don't want to sell yourself too short, either. An appropriate response: "Thanks, but while all of us worked hard, it was Evan who did the bulk of the work on the project."

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