

## No putting on make-up on trains, says rail company

30th October, 2016



A 30-second video from a railway company in Japan has made many women angry. The video is aimed at stopping women from putting on make-up while riding on trains. It

is from the Japanese railway operator Tokyu Corporation. It has the lines: "Women in the city are all beautiful. But they are ugly to see, at times....Please refrain from putting on make-up on the train." A spokesman for Tokyu said that the no-make-up video campaign is part one of an eight-part video series aimed at educating passengers on train etiquette. It wants people to follow rules and be well mannered on the trains. Tokyu said it had received more positive feedback about the make-up video than negative feedback, and that it would continue showing it.

Many women have criticized the video on social media as being sexist. A Twitter user wrote: "I can understand if Tokyu's ad asks me to stop putting make-up on because powder might spill or its smell bothers others, but a train company has no right to tell me whether I look beautiful or ugly." Another wrote: "If Tokyu wants to clamp down on people who make others uncomfortable, it should create a video targeting people with body odors, or people who smell of alcohol or vomit." In a 2015 survey, passengers said watching women put on make-up was number eight on a list of the biggest nuisances on trains. Other nuisances included men groping women and people talking loudly on smartphones.

Sources: [JapanTimes.co.jp](http://JapanTimes.co.jp) / [bbc.com](http://bbc.com) / [atimes.com](http://atimes.com)

## Writing

Make-up and cosmetics are a waste of money and time. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

video / train company / angry / beautiful / make-up / passengers / train etiquette / social media / sexist / powder / body odor / alcohol / nuisances / smartphones

## True / False

- The video in the article is 30 minutes long. T / F
- The video is from a Japanese railway company called Tokyo. T / F
- The train company will release another eight videos. T / F
- The company has received mostly negative feedback on the video. T / F
- Many women criticized the video as being sexist. T / F
- A woman said it's OK for a train company to tell her what to think. T / F
- Women putting on make-up was the eighth biggest nuisance in a survey. T / F
- Another nuisance was people talking loudly on their phones. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <b>angry</b>         | a. troubles          |
| 2. <b>stopping</b>      | b. manners           |
| 3. <b>refrain from</b>  | c. attacked          |
| 4. <b>etiquette</b>     | d. questionnaire     |
| 5. <b>positive</b>      | e. putting an end to |
| 6. <b>criticized</b>    | f. control           |
| 7. <b>bothers</b>       | g. annoyances        |
| 8. <b>clamp down on</b> | h. furious           |
| 9. <b>survey</b>        | i. good              |
| 10. <b>nuisances</b>    | j. stop              |

## Discussion – Student A

- How necessary is make-up?
- What do you think about what you read?
- Is it annoying to watch someone put on make-up on a train?
- Should people put on make-up at home or in a private area?
- What do you think of the company saying women are 'ugly at times'?
- What advice do you have for Tokyu's boss?
- Do people look better without make-up?
- What are the good and bad things about make-up?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. A 30-                                     | a. from putting on make-up  |
| 2. putting on make-up while                  | b. on people                |
| 3. Please refrain                            | c. media as being sexist    |
| 4. part one of an eight-                     | d. riding on trains         |
| 5. negative                                  | e. of the biggest nuisances |
| 6. women have criticized the video on social | f. feedback                 |
| 7. its smell bothers                         | g. second video             |
| 8. clamp down                                | h. odors                    |
| 9. people with body                          | i. part video series        |
| 10. number eight on a list                   | j. others                   |

## Discussion – Student B

- Should the video have asked men to stop combing their hair on trains?
- What do you think of the comments the women tweeted?
- What annoys you about passengers on trains?
- Do we need videos to tell us how to behave on trains?
- What do you think women should do to fight back?
- In what ways are you well mannered on trains?
- What's the worst behaviour you've seen on a train?
- What questions would you like to ask Tokyu's boss?

## Spelling

- video is eadim at stopping women
- the Japanese railway aroppter Tokyu
- Please nraiefr from putting on make-up
- the no-make-up video cgipanam
- part one of an eight-part video eseirs
- positive kdebeacf
- women have tcedriicz (USA) / scidireict (UK) the video
- being sxitse
- its smell rstebho others
- people with body soodr (USA) / rsuood (UK)
- In a 2015 yurvse, passengers said...
- the biggest iscaesnun on trains

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. i
6. c	7. a	8. f	9. d	10. g

## Role Play

### Role A – Lipstick

You think lipstick is the most important make-up item. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their items aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): foundation, eye shadow or nail polish.

### Role B – Foundation

You think foundation is the most important make-up item. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their items aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lipstick, eye shadow or nail polish.

### Role C – Eye shadow

You think eye shadow is the most important make-up item. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their items aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): foundation, lipstick or nail polish.

### Role D – Nail polish

You think nail polish is the most important make-up item. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their items aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): foundation, eye shadow or lipstick.

## Speaking – Make-up

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| • mascara     | • lipstick        |
| • eye shadow  | • foundation      |
| • hair colour | • blusher / rouge |
| • nail polish | • eye liner       |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.