

M23 Exercise “Respect and tolerance”

In which of the following situations does the use of the term “tolerance” imply respect and in which does it not? Explain the reasons for your answers.

- Maria tolerates high temperatures: she never feels hot.
- José and Juan have different points of view but they are capable of discussing things calmly and listening to one another.
- My friend Carlos cannot tolerate the fact that I hand-write my school reports, although our teacher does not mind whether we type or hand-write them.
- Rosario can hardly tolerate Zulma and never speaks to her.
- The classmate I share a desk with needs complete silence when working, while I tend to quietly hum tunes when I concentrate without noticing that I’m doing it. This annoys my friend, so we have talked. I make an effort not to hum and he tolerates me humming from time to time.
- My father does not tolerate the messiness of my room.
- Charo cannot tolerate the smell of boiled spinach when her mother is cooking.
- We all know Juana does not tolerate anybody sitting at her chair during breaks in class. Today, she pushed Rocio to the floor because she sat at her chair knowing how much it annoys Juana.
- The teacher does not tolerate anybody being late to class.
- Paco has no choice but to tolerate his neighbors playing very loud music when he wants to listen to the news on TV. However, whenever he sees his neighbors, he thinks that if he ignores them, they will understand that he is annoyed.
- Although my mother does not like having pets, she tolerates me having a rabbit at home.
- Although my mother is not religious, she tolerates my grandfather (who is religious) saying a prayer before dinner whenever he comes to visit.
- My mother does not tolerate me tearing bread with my hands because she says that is what knives are for.



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