

Answer Key: Is it Consent or Not Consent?

Scenario	Element of Consent	Not Consent
<p>1. Your partner didn't say "no" but didn't say "yes" either. The absence of a no does not mean yes. For it to be yes, it needs to be clearly communicated. Communication that is unclear or confusing is not consent. If there is any uncertainty that someone is agreeing to do something, the person initiating the activity must ask permission and wait until permission is clearly given before proceeding.</p>		✓
<p>2. You say "yes" without feeling pressured or threatened. Agreeing to do something is consent only if it is voluntary. If there is any type of coercion or there is something to lose by saying "no" (e.g., safety, or a relationship), it is not consent.</p>	✓	
<p>3. Your partner said "yes" last time. Consent is ongoing and can be withdrawn at any time; therefore, prior consent does not apply to any activities that happen later. The consent conversation is continuous and happens during each instance of sexual contact.</p>		✓
<p>4. Your partner is drunk or high and says "yes". People who are drunk, high, sleeping or unconscious are unable to give consent, either legally or practically. In order to have clear communication about consent, both people should be sober and alert.</p>		✓
<p>5. Your partner's body language matches a verbal "yes". A "yes" to an activity is only truly a "yes" if the body language and the verbal language are both consistent in that message.</p>	✓	
<p>6. You change your mind and say "no" to sex. Consent is an ongoing conversation. One person asks permission for an activity and another gives it. This conversation continues as the activity continues or changes. At any point, people can change their mind and withdraw consent.</p>		✓
<p>7. You are tired of saying "no" so you say nothing. Pressuring, pestering, threatening, guilt-tripping, or 'wearing someone down' are coercive actions that do not allow for consent. Saying nothing is not consent. Consent must be affirmative and voluntary.</p>		✓

<p>8. Both you and your partner feel safe and comfortable. Safety and comfort (with themselves, their body, the other people and the situation), creates an environment where people are able to carry on all sides of the consent conversation: asking and giving permission.</p>	✓	
<p>9. You have an STI and did not tell your partner. A person can only consent to activities if they are aware of the risk. If the risk is hidden, the full consent conversation cannot happen.</p>		✓
<p>10. Your partner said “no”. “No” always means “no” whether verbally or non-verbally communicated. Consent is affirmative. A lack of a freely given, clearly communicated “yes” is a “no.”</p>		✓
<p>11. You were flirting. Consent cannot be assumed or implied. Flirting, clothing, sexual texts or social media communication should not be confused with consent. Consent should not be assumed because people are in a relationship nor should it be assumed if there was previous sexual activity. Permission must be requested and granted for an activity to proceed.</p>		✓
<p>12. You pushed the other person away. “No” always means “no” whether verbally or non-verbally communicated. Consent is affirmative. A lack of a freely given, clearly communicated “yes” is also a “no.”</p>		✓
<p>13. You can’t tell if the other person wants to keep going. Consent should be agreed upon by both partners with a clear understanding of what they are consenting to. Communication that is unclear or confusing is not consent. If there is any uncertainty that someone is agreeing to do something, the person initiating the activity must ask permission and wait until permission is clearly given before proceeding.</p>		✓
<p>14. You have sex with someone in exchange for a place to stay. Nobody under 18 can consent to sex that includes involvement in or exposure to pornography, trading sex for money, safety, necessities of life, substances or sexual contact with a person in authority or who they are dependent on.</p>		✓
<p>15. Your partner says “yes” enthusiastically. When someone is consenting, they agree wholeheartedly and are confident in their decision.</p>	✓	