

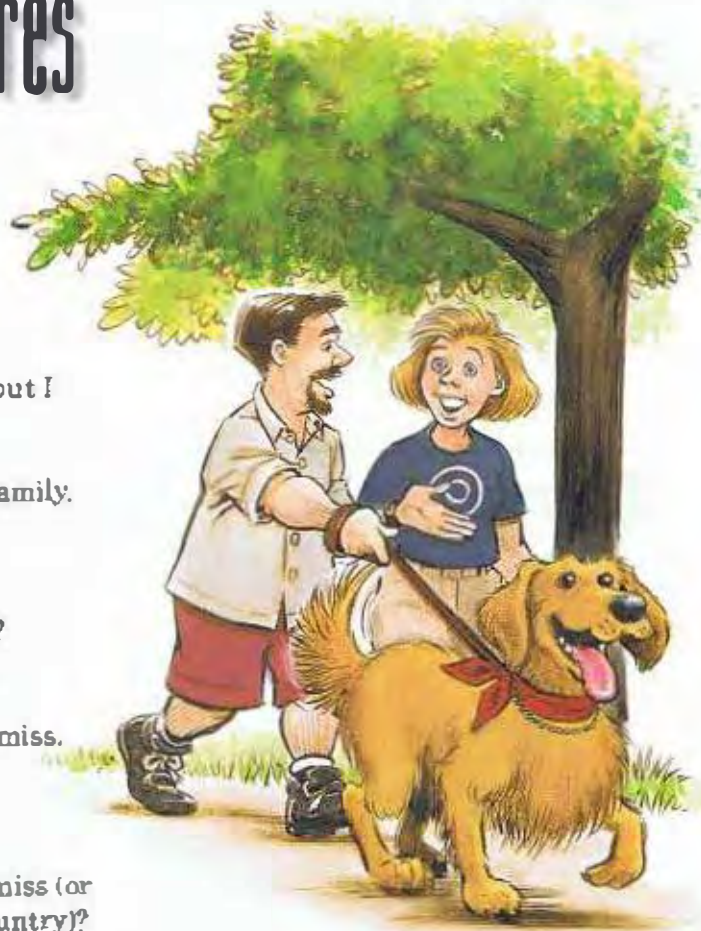
5

Crossing cultures

1 CONVERSATION

A  Listen and practice.

Fred: I hear Maggie is going to work in India.
 Pam: In dia! Wow! I hear it's a beautiful place, but I don't think I could ever live there.
 Fred: Why not?
 Pam: Well, it's too far from home. I'd miss my family.
 Fred: I don't think I'd mind moving to a foreign country. The language is the only thing that I'd be worried about.
 Pam: Yeah, but wouldn't you miss your friends?
 Fred: Sure, for a while, but I'd make new ones.
 Pam: You certainly sound very confident.
 Fred: You know, actually, there is one thing I'd miss.
 Pam: What's that?
 Fred: My dog!



B Pair work What are the three things you miss (or would miss the most if you moved to another country)?

2 WORD POWER Culture shock

A These words are used to describe how people sometimes feel when they live in a foreign country. Which are positive (P)? Which are negative (N)?

anxious	.....	fascinated	.....
calm	.....	nervous	.....
comfortable	.....	secure	.....
confident	.....	sure of oneself	.....
curious	.....	suspicious	.....
depressed	.....	uncertain	.....
embarrassed	.....	uncomfortable	.....
enthusiastic	.....	worried	.....



B Group work Do you live (or would you like to live) in a foreign country? How did you feel (or would you feel) about moving there?

A: I think I'd be nervous and feel a little uncertain, but I'd be enthusiastic, too!
 B: Yeah, me, too. And I'm sure that I

3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Noun phrases

These noun phrases contain a relative clause.

The language is **one thing (that) I'd be worried about.** **One thing (that) I'd be worried about** is the language.
 My dog is **the thing (that) I'd miss the most.** **The thing (that) I'd miss the most** is my dog.
 My mom's cooking is **something (that) I'd really miss.** **Something (that) I'd really miss** is my mom's cooking.

A Imagine you are going to live in a foreign country. Write sentences using these noun phrases and your own information. Then write three more sentences.


1. the thing that I'd be most worried about
2. something I'd feel confident about
3. the person that I'd miss the most
4. someone I'd never miss
5. something I might be uncomfortable about
6. the thing that I'd find most exciting



B Group work Compare. Do others feel the same way?



4 PRONUNCIATION *Key words*

A  Listen and practice. The words that carry the most important information in a sentence are usually stressed.

Argentina is a country that I'd like to live in.
 The thing I'd be most worrried about is the food.
 The person that I'd miss the most is my father.

B Pair work Mark the stress in the sentences you wrote in Exercise 3. Then practice the sentences. Pay attention to the stressed words.

5 LISTENING



Tokyo, Japan

CLASS
AUDIO
ONLY 

A Pair work Think of three things that make life easy and three things that make life difficult for a person living in a foreign country.

B  Listen to a radio broadcast by journalist James Fallows, who talks about some of his experiences in Japan.

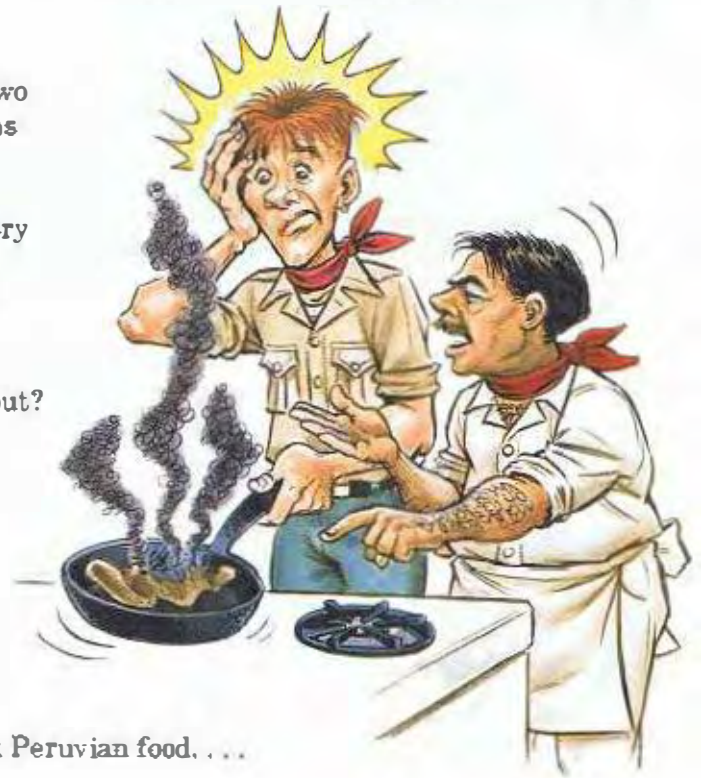
1. What is the most difficult thing about learning a foreign language?
2. Why is he able to read more books in Japan?
3. What other advantages does he mention?

6 GOING ABROAD

Group work Read these questions. Think of two more questions to add to the list. Then take turns asking and answering the questions in groups.

- If you could live in a foreign country, what country would you like to live in? Why?
- What country wouldn't you like to live in? Why?
- If you could go abroad with someone, who would it be?
- What is something you would never travel without?
- Who would you write to first after arriving?
- What would be your two greatest concerns about living abroad?
- What do you think you would enjoy the most about living abroad?

- A: What country would you like to live in?
- B: The country I'd like to live in is Peru.
- C: Why is that?
- B: Well, I've always wanted to learn how to cook Peruvian food. . . .



7 SNAPSHOT

Different Customs					
Canada and the U.S.	Indonesia	Korea	Muslim countries	Samoa	Thailand
Don't arrive early if you're invited to someone's home.	Never point to anything with your foot.	Don't pass something to an older person or superior with only one hand.	Don't eat with your left hand.	Don't eat when you're walking in public.	Never touch anyone except a child on the head.

Source: *The Los Angeles Times*

Talk about these questions.

- Does your culture follow any of these customs?
- Why do you think people have these customs?
- What other interesting customs do you know?
- What customs should a visitor to your country know about?

8 CONVERSATION

A  Listen and practice.

- Marta: Guess what! I just got invited to my teacher's house for dinner!
- Karen: Oh, how nice.
- Marta: Yes, but what do you do when you're invited to someone's house here?
- Karen: Well, it's the custom to bring a small gift.
- Marta: Really? Like what?
- Karen: Oh, maybe some flowers or dessert.
- Marta: And is it all right to bring a friend along?
- Karen: Well, if you want to bring someone, you're expected to call first and ask if it's OK.



B Class activity Are any of these customs the same in your country?

9 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Expectations

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| When you visit someone, | you're supposed to bring a small gift.
you aren't supposed to arrive early. |
| If you want to bring someone, | you're expected to call first and ask.
it's the custom to check with the host.
it's not acceptable to arrive without calling first. |

A Match information in columns A and B to make sentences about customs in the United States and Canada. Then compare with a partner.

A

1. If the service in a restaurant is very bad,
2. If you've been to a friend's home for dinner,
3. When you want to smoke in public,
4. When you go out on a date,
5. If you plan to visit someone at home,
6. When you meet someone for the first time,

B

- a. you're supposed to call first.
- b. you aren't expected to leave a tip.
- c. you aren't supposed to hug or kiss them.
- d. you're expected to ask the people near you.
- e. it's the custom to call and thank them.
- f. it's acceptable to share the expenses.

B Group work How are the customs in part A different in your country?

C Complete these sentences with information about your country or a country you know well. Then compare with a partner.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. In . . . , if people invite you to their home, | 4. When a relative has a birthday, |
| 2. When you go out with friends for dinner, | 5. If a friend is in the hospital, |
| 3. If a friend gets engaged to be married, | 6. When someone is going to have a baby, |

10 LISTENING Unique customs

CLABS AUDIO ONLY

Listen to three people describing unique customs they observed while traveling. Complete the chart.

	Where was this person?	What was the custom?	How did this person feel about it?
1. Alice
2. Mark
3. Susan

11 THINGS TO REMEMBER



Canadian doctor at Kunde Hospital in Nepal

A Pair work What should a visitor to your country know about local customs? Make a list of “dos and don’ts” for foreign visitors. Think about these points and other points.

- dressing appropriately
- staying as a houseguest or in a hotel
- traveling by bus or train
- giving and receiving gifts
- taking photographs
- meeting people
- eating out
- shopping

B Class activity Compare your lists around the class. Do any of your classmates’ customs surprise you?

useful expressions

One of the most important things to remember is

Another thing to keep in mind is

One thing visitors don’t often realize is

12 WRITING Before you go

A Choose five points from the list you made in Exercise 11. Use them to write a composition.

When you visit my country, there are some important things you should know. For example, if you are visiting a temple or shrine, it's not acceptable to take photographs. Also, you are supposed to

interchange 5

Culture clash

Compare customs in different countries.
Turn to page IC-7.

B Pair work Take turns reading your compositions. Can you suggest any improvements to the content or grammar of your partner’s composition?

13 READING

Culture Check

What kinds of behavior are acceptable in some cultures but not in others?



Check (✓) the statements about cultural behavior that are true in your country.

Socializing

- 1. People often kiss friends on the cheek when they meet.
- 2. It's OK to ask people how much money they earn.
- 3. It's all right to ask someone what his or her religion is.
- 4. It's common to introduce yourself to new neighbors and give them a small gift.
- 5. People always arrive on time when they're invited to someone's home.
- 6. It's OK to bring a friend or family member when you're invited to a party at someone's home.
- 7. It's OK to ask for a second helping when eating at a friend's house.
- 8. It's OK to drop by a friend's house without calling first.
- 9. When friends have dinner out together, each person pays his or her share of the check.

Out in Public

- 10. It's OK to blow your nose in public.
- 11. It's all right to chew gum while talking to someone.
- 12. It's common to bargain when you buy things in stores.
- 13. If you want to smoke around other people, you should always ask if it's OK.

At Work and School

- 14. In an office, people usually prefer to be called by their first name.
- 15. In high schools, it's common to call a teacher by his or her first name.
- 16. Students always stand up when the teacher enters the classroom.

Dating and Marriage

- 17. Parents often decide who their children will marry.
- 18. Teenagers go out on dates a lot.
- 19. A man usually gives a woman a gift when they go out on a date.
- 20. Young people usually live with their parents after they get married.

Group work Compare answers. How many are the same? How many are different? (To see how an American or Canadian would usually respond to this culture check, see the appendix at the back of the book.)