

Name.....Class.....No.....

Understanding Cultures

New Zealand is a country in the South Pacific Ocean. It has an interesting culture. The Maori people are native to New Zealand. For a long time, they were the only people in New Zealand. Europeans came only a few centuries ago.

Today, Maori people form 15 percent of the population of New Zealand. They are an ethnic minority group. The Maori have unique traditions. One particular tradition is easy to see. They get tattoos. These tattoos are art. The tattoos are important in their culture. The tattoos have lots of details, shapes, and patterns. Each one is beautiful. One impressive fact about Maori tattoos is that each one is unique. No two are the same.

Tattoos are popular around the world now. There are different styles of tattoos. The native Maori word *tautau* sounds close to the word *tattoo*. Maori culture may have given the world a unique kind of art. But lots of people don't understand tattoos. They mean different things to different people in different places. Understanding where things come from can make them more interesting.

1. The Maori people are native to New Zealand
 - a. original
 - b. common
 - c. bigger
 - d. great
2. The tattoos have lots of details, shapes, and patterns.
 - a. words
 - b. colors
 - c. parts
 - d. meanings
3. One particular tradition is easy to see.
 - a. national
 - b. specific
 - c. common
 - d. original
4. Maori culture may have given the world a unique kind of art.
 - a. cultural
 - b. old
 - c. great
 - d. special

Fill in the blanks with the phrases from the list. Use each phrase only once.

in good-luck

breaking a mirror

confessed to being

picking four-leaf clovers

who responded to

the superstitious beliefs

A marketing research firm conducted a survey to find out information about 5 _____ of Americans. It was found through the survey that many Americans actually 6 _____ at least “somewhat” superstitious. Most people see themselves as “optimistically superstitious,” meaning they believe more 7 _____ than bad-luck superstitions. Some common good-luck superstitions in the survey included 8 _____ and kissing under mistletoe. Bad-luck superstitions on the survey included walking under a ladder and 9 _____. Of the people 10 _____ the survey, young people said they were superstitious more often than old people.