

PASSAGE 32

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Decide whether the statements from 1 to 4 are True or False and choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for Question 5 and 6.

The handshake goes right back to the 5th century BC. Men put their right hand forward towards another man and opened it to show they were not holding a knife or other weapon. The men then joined hands and shook them up and down to prove that there were no weapons hiding in their sleeves. This action, which began as a simple message of peace, is now used in many situations: we do it when we meet new people and, when we greet friends and colleagues. We do it when we congratulate people - at a graduation ceremony, for example - or when we make friends again after an **argument**. We do it when we make a business deal. Sports people do it before and after matches. But the message of a handshake is always the same: "I trust and respect you and we are equal."

Handshakes are different around the world. If you plan to do business abroad, you will need to learn the right way to shake hands. If you get it wrong, you might give a bad impression. In most western cultures, a strong handshake shows you are confident. If you shake another person's hand lightly and loosely, they will think you are weak, shy or just not interested. Other cultures, however, prefer a gentle handshake. In China or Turkey, for example, if your handshake is too tight and strong, you will seem rude and impolite.

Question 1: The handshake was a symbol of peace in the 5th century BC.

Question 2: We might shake hands with our opponent before a match.

Question 3: A powerful handshake is preferred in western countries.

Question 4: Your handshake which is too strong can give bad impression in China.

Question 5: According to the passage, the following statements are true EXCEPT ____.

- A. The handshake originated as a way to show that one was unarmed.
- B. A strong handshake is generally seen as a sign of confidence in Western cultures.
- C. Handshakes are always performed in the same manner worldwide.
- D. Handshakes can convey messages of trust and equality.

Question 6: The word "**argument**" in the passage is opposite in meaning to ____.

- A. agreement
- B. conflict
- C. debate
- D. disagreement