

Unit 5. CULTURAL IDENTITY

LANGUAGE FOCUS

Phonetics

Assimilation in fast, connected speech: *a cheese shop, a good game*

Grammar

- The present perfect vs. the present perfect continuous

I think I've lost my sunglasses.

I've been looking for them since noon, but I can't find them

- Repeated comparatives to say that something is changing

The practice of using more and more chemicals in agriculture is harmful to people's health and to the environment.

Vocabulary

Words and phrases related to cultural identity: *multicultural, unique, national costume, ...*

I. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word that differs from the other three in the position of primary stress in each of the following questions.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. A. feature | B. invade | C. express | D. unique |
| 2. A. belief | B. culture | C. custom | D. value |
| 3. A. traditional | B. identity | C. integration | D. variety |
| 4. A. establish | B. enable | C. critical | D. successful |
| 5. A. community | B. ethnicity | C. celebration | D. environment |

II. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D indicate the word whose underlined part differs from the other three in pronunciation in each of the following questions.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. A. culture | B. custom | C. success | D. number |
| 2. A. celebration | B. enable | C. establish | D. invade |
| 3. A. protect | B. community | C. custom | D. becoming |
| 4. A. enabled | B. featured | C. valued | D. invaded |
| 5. A. define | B. integrate | C. celebrate | D. express |

III. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word(s) SIMILAR in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

- It's incredible to see him fitting in the new environment such a short period of time.
A. creditable B. increasing C. unthinkable D. unbelievable
- She was angry because he disregarded her feelings in this matter.
A. did not ignore B. discharged C. paid no attention to D. considered
- During the ten years working in Germany he accumulated huge knowledge of German customs.
A. made B. expanded C. collected D. increased
- He did his work reluctantly because he did not like the culture of this company.
A. slowly B. unwillingly C. inefficiently D. successfully
- You shouldn't expect immigrants to assimilate into an alien culture immediately.
A. become accepted B. get rejected C. be alienated D. be identified

IV. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

- "Sorry I'm late. ____ for a long time?"
A. Did you wait B. Have you waited C. Have you been waiting D. Did you wait
- I ____ my finger! It really hurts.
A. cut B. was cutting C. have cut D. have been cutting

3. ____ Paul Simon's latest record?
A. Have you heard B. Have you been hearing C. Did you hear D. Are you heard
4. Laura's tired because she ____ all day.
A. shopped B. shops C. has been shopping D. has shopped
5. "Sorry. I ____ one of your glasses."
A. have broken B. was breaking C. break D. have been breaking
6. Ian ____ the living room, but he hasn't finished yet.
A. has painted B. paint C. painted D. has been painting
7. "Look what Pat ____ me for my birthday! A bike!"
A. was giving B. have been giving C. gives D. has given
8. "There's my wallet! I ____ for it for ages."
A. have been looking B. looked C. have looked D. look
9. If the school union does nothing about those students with culture shock, their situation will get ____.
A. more and more serious B. more serious and more serious
C. more and most serious D. the most serious
10. It is getting ____ for teenagers to get along well with their parents.
A. the most difficult B. more and more difficult
C. as difficult as D. more difficult and more difficult
11. Thanks to globalization, countries around the world are getting ____ to one another.
A. the closest B. closer and closer C. as close as D. the closer
12. It is important for young people to ____ the identity of our culture.
A. remain B. retain C. maintain D. attain
13. Shortage of land and funding is blamed for the city's ____ green space.
A. inefficient B. inaccurate C. inadequate D. indispensable
14. Retail sales volume in local urban and rural areas rose 57.8 per cent and 46.8 per cent, ____, over February 1995.
A. individually B. accordingly C. correspondingly D. respectively
15. The largest system serving e-mail messengers is the internet, a ____ of millions of computers linked worldwide.
A. unity B. combination C. network D. connection
16. The ____ department is planning a training program for the new members of staff.
A. personal B. personnel C. professional D. purchasing
17. Jefferson once said that one must be determined and ____ on what he thinks is right.
A. stick B. insist C. persist D. keep
18. It is the ____ in that country for women to marry young.
A. habit B. action C. condition D. custom
19. He is considered as a leading ____ in the music industry.
A. number B. shape C. figure D. character
20. We are very glad to see that all the signs ____ to a successful year ahead.
A. point B. suggest C. show D. react
21. "If no one can soon ____ a good solution, we're going to be in trouble," the board chair warned.
A. come up with B. put up with C. catch up with D. check up with
22. Goodness, economy, and honesty are regarded as some universal ____ a man should have.
A. habits B. customs C. characters D. virtues
23. X: "I feel nervous. I've got an exam today."
Y: ____
A. Cheer up! Things can't be that bad! B. That's great. Have a good time.
C. Poor you! That happens to me sometimes. D. Good luck! Do your best.

24. X: "I feel really depressed at the moment. Nothing's going right in my life."

Y: "_____"

- A. I know. We really need some sunshine, don't we?
- B. Cheer up! Things can't be that bad!
- C. I'm sorry to hear that, but I'm sure he'll be all right.
- D. That's good. I'm pleased to hear it.

25. X: "I'm really excited. I'm going on holiday to Australia tomorrow."

Y: "_____"

- A. Good luck! Do your best.
- B. Why don't you go home to bed?
- C. That's great. Have a good time.
- D. Cheer up! Things can't be that bad!

26. I can't tell Peter and Paul apart; they are _____ twins.

- A. similar
- B. alike
- C. resemblance
- D. identical

27. You are not allowed to drive _____ the influence _____ alcohol.

- A. under / of
- B. in / of
- C. under / by
- D. by / in

28. She was overwhelmed with honour _____ recognition _____ her bravery.

- A. with / of
- B. on / in
- C. by / about
- D. in / of

29. The interviewees are supposed to give their answers to the job offers _____.

- A. on the spot
- B. all in all
- C. beyond the joke
- D. within reach

30. The children often make _____ of Charles, which annoys his parents very much.

- A. allowance
- B. fun
- C. way
- D. consideration

V. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

In the United States, it is important to be on time, or punctual, (1) _____ an appointment, a class, a meeting, etc. However, this may not be true in all countries. An American professor discovered this difference while teaching a class in a Brazilian university. The two-hour class was (2) _____ to begin at 10 a.m. and end at 12. On the first day, when the professor arrived (3) _____, no one was in the classroom. Many students came after 10 a.m. Several arrived after 10:30 a.m. Two students came after 11 a.m. Although all the students greeted the professor as they arrived, (4) _____ apologized for their lateness. Were these students being rude? He decided to study the students' behaviour.

The professor talked to American and Brazilian students about lateness in (5) _____ an informal and a formal situation: at a lunch with a friend and in university calls, (6) _____. He gave them an example and asked them (7) _____ they would react. If they had a lunch appointment with a friend, the (8) _____ American student showed clearly lateness as 19 minutes after the agreed time. On the other hand, the average Brazilian student would be 33 minutes late.

In an American university, students are expected to arrive at the appointed hour. (9) _____, in Brazil, neither the teacher nor the students always arrive at the appointed hour. Classes not only begin at the scheduled time in the United States, but also end at the scheduled time. In the Brazilian class, only a few students left the class at 12:00; many remained past 12:30 to discuss the class and ask more questions. Arriving late may not be very important in Brazil, (10) _____ is staying late.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. in | B. to | C. for | D. at |
| 2. A. intended | B. scheduled | C. meant | D. planned |
| 3. A. at times | B. over time | C. on time | D. in time |
| 4. A. many | B. few | C. several | D. no |
| 5. A. neither | B. either | C. both | D. not only |
| 6. A. respectably | B. respectfully | C. irrespectively | D. respectively |
| 7. A. what | B. how | C. why | D. when |
| 8. A. normal | B. average | C. ordinary | D. single |
| 9. A. In addition | B. In particular | C. In general | D. In contrast |

10. A. either B. so C. neither D. nor

VI. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Culture shock is the loss of emotional balance, disorientation, or confusion that a person feels when moving from a familiar environment to an unfamiliar one. When it is a common experience, the degree to which it occurs will vary from one person to another. Individual personality, previous cross-cultural experience, and language proficiency all affect a person's ability to interact socially in the new culture. The basic cause of culture shock is the abrupt loss of all that is familiar, leading to a sense of isolation.

When an individual enters a strange culture, all or most of those familiar signs and hints are removed. He or she is like a fish out of water. No matter how broad-minded or good-willed he may be, a series of properties have been knocked from under him. This may be followed by a feeling of frustration and anxiety. People react to the frustration in much the same way. First they reject the environment which causes the discomfort: "The ways of the host country are bad because they make us feel bad."

Another aspect of culture shock is regression. The home environment suddenly assumes a tremendous importance, and everything becomes irrationally glorified. All difficulties and problems are forgotten and only the good things back home are remembered. It usually takes a trip home to bring one back to reality.

Common symptoms of culture shock include the following extremes. These are excessive concerns over delays and other minor frustrations; fear of being cheated, robbed or injured; sleeplessness or a desire to sleep more; and a great longing to go home. Underlying all these is the uncomfortable feeling of not really belonging, of being an outsider.

1. Culture shock is basically caused by _____.
A. difficulties in using the language B. being unable to make friends
C. feeling desperately homesick D. being away from all that is familiar
2. According to the passage, the degree of culture shock to which one feels varies _____.
A. from person to person B. from country to country
C. in accordance with a person's age D. in accordance with one's nationality
3. The first response a person tends to have when setting foot on a new land is _____.
A. feeling frustrated B. fearing to be cheated
C. having a sense of losing something D. having a sense of being abandoned
4. A home-coming trip will _____.
A. draw you back to reality B. make you remember all the good things
C. make you forget the troubles D. help you solve the problems
5. Which is NOT a symptom of culture shock?
A. Longing to go back home B. Longing to travel
C. Having fear of being cheated D. Feeling to be an outsider

VII. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Diffusion, the process of introducing cultural elements from one society into another, occurs in three basic patterns: direct contact, intermediate contact, and stimulus diffusion.

In direct contact, elements of a society's culture may be adopted first by neighboring societies and then gradually spread farther afield. The spread of the manufacture of paper is an example of extensive diffusion by direct contact. The invention of paper is **attributed** to the Chinese Ts'ai Lun in A.D. 105. Within fifty years, paper was being made in many places in central China. By 264 it was found in Chinese Turkmenistan, and from then on the **successive** places of manufacture were Samarkand (751), Baghdad (793), Egypt (about 900), Morocco (about 1100), and France (1189). In general, the pattern of accepting the borrowed invention was the same everywhere. Paper was first imported into each area as a luxury, then in ever-expanding quantities as a staple product. Finally, usually within one to three centuries, local manufacture started.

Diffusion by intermediate contact occurs through the agency of third parties. Frequently, traders carry a cultural trait from the society that originated **it** to another group. As an example of diffusion through intermediaries, Phoenician traders spread the alphabet which may have been invented by another Semitic group, to Greece. At times, soldiers serve as intermediaries in spreading a culture trait. During the Middle Ages, European soldiers acted as intermediaries in two ways: they carried European culture to Arab societies of North Africa and brought Arab culture back to Europe. In the nineteenth century Western missionaries brought Western-style clothing to such places as Africa and the Pacific Islands.

In stimulus diffusion, knowledge of a trait belonging to another culture stimulates the invention or development of a local equivalent. A classic example of stimulus diffusion is the creation of the Cherokee syllabic writing system by a Native American named Sequoya. Sequoya got the idea from his contact with the English; yet he did not adopt the writing system nor did he even learn to write English. He utilized some English alphabetic symbols, altered others, and invented new ones.

- The passage mainly discusses how _____.
 - cultures retain their unique characteristics
 - cultural elements transfer from one culture to another
 - paper came into general use
 - economies grew through trade and manufacturing
- The word "**attributed**" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
 - credited
 - presented
 - promised
 - limited
- The word "**successive**" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
 - specialized
 - principal
 - prosperous
 - subsequent
- The word "**it**" in the passage refers to _____.
 - diffusion
 - contact
 - trait
 - society
- According to the passage, a change that occurred in Africa and the Pacific Islands as a result of the arrival of missionaries was _____.
 - an increase in the presence of soldiers
 - variation in local style of dressing
 - the manufacture of paper
 - the introduction of new alphabetical systems
- In stating that the Cherokee writing system is a classic example, the author means that this example is especially _____.
 - representative
 - understandable
 - difficult
 - old
- According to the passage, what did Sequoya do?
 - Adopt the English writing system for use in Cherokee
 - Study English intensively in order to learn to write it
 - Teach English to Cherokee Native Americans
 - Create a Cherokee writing system based on elements of the English alphabet
- The origins of the Greek and Cherokee writing systems were discussed in the passage because both systems _____.
 - underwent identical patterns of development in different parts of the world
 - influenced the development of alphabets of other languages
 - represented distinct ways in which elements could be introduced into a culture
 - were introduced by religious missionaries
- Which of the following statements about direct contact, intermediate contact, and stimulus diffusion is NOT true?
 - They all cause changes in cultures.
 - They all occur in more than one culture.
 - They all involve the interaction of cultures.
 - They all require the trading of manufactured products.
- The author organized the discussion in the passage by _____.

- A. establishing a historical chronology from the past through the present
- B. illustrating specific categories with examples
- C. identifying important geographic regions
- D. ranking categories from most to least significant

VIII. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the underlined part that needs correction in each of the following questions.

1. Ice crystals in a glacier tends to melt and recrystalize within a brief moment of travel on a downhill glide.
A B C D
2. Either the United States silver dollar and half-dollar, first minted in 1794, had a figure of Liberty on one side and an eagle on the reverse side.
A B C D
3. A gene is a biological unit of information who directs the activity of a cell or organism during its lifetime.
A B C D
4. Photograph was revolutionized in 1831 by the introduction of the collodion process for making negatives.
A B C D
5. Because of various gift-giving holidays, most clothing stores in the United States do almost as much business in November and December as they do in other ten months combined.
A B C D
6. Cross-cultural misunderstandings often happens between people of different cultures.
A B C D
7. Don't go out for lunch until you finished typing these letters.
A B C D
8. Each star has a predominant colour, which depend on its surface temperature.
A B C D
9. The distribution of copper, like that of gold, does not appear to be related to any particularly type of rock.
A B C D
10. At no time she could understand what he really wanted to say.
A B C D

IX. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the sentence that is closest in meaning to each of the following questions.

1. You used to be more studious two years ago than you are these days.
 - A. You were less studious two years ago than you are these days.
 - B. You study less these days than you did two years ago.
 - C. You aren't so studious these days as you were two years ago.
 - D. You are more and more studious over the last two years.
2. When the robber pointed the gun to her head, she immediately did what he wanted.
 - A. On pointing the gun to her head, she immediately did what he wanted.
 - B. On pointing the gun to his head, she immediately did what he wanted.
 - C. She immediately did what he wanted when the gun pointed to his head.
 - D. When being pointed the gun to her head, she immediately did what he wanted.
3. Driving at that speed is dangerous on this road, whether you are an experienced driver or not.
 - A. No matter how dangerous the road is, you are an experienced driver.
 - B. No matter how experienced you are, driving at that speed is dangerous on this road.
 - C. However experienced you are, driving at that speed on this road is not dangerous.
 - D. As you are an experienced driver, driving at that speed is dangerous on this road.
4. We couldn't relax until all the guests had gone home.

- A. Only before all the guests had gone home could we relax.
 - B. Only after all the guests had gone home that we could relax.
 - C. Not until all the guests had gone home could we relax.
 - D. Not until we could relax had all the guests gone home.
5. It was wrong of you not to show any concern for her mom's health.
- A. You should show concern for her mom's health.
 - B. You should have shown concern for her mom's health.
 - C. It was wrong that you showed concern for her mom's health.
 - D. You shouldn't have shown any concern for her mom's health.

X. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the sentence that best combines each pair of sentences in the following questions.

1. We had prepared for it carefully. The result was quite bad.
- A. In spite of our careful preparation for it, the result was not bad.
 - B. Carefully as we had prepared for it, the result was quite bad.
 - C. Whether or not we had careful prepared for it, the result careful prepared for it, the result was quite bad.
 - D. Despite our careful preparation for it, the result is quite bad.
2. What a pity that the TV packed up. We cannot watch the word news now.
- A. Had the TV not packed up, we could have watched the world news now.
 - B. If the TV had not packed up, we could watch the world news now.
 - C. If the TV didn't pack up we could watch the world news now.
 - D. If it hadn't been for the TV packed up, we could watch the world news now.
3. She asked us to leave quietly. In that way, we wouldn't disturb her.
- A. We were asked to leave quietly so that we wouldn't be disturbed.
 - B. She asked us to leave quietly so that not to be disturbed.
 - C. We were asked to leave quietly so as not to be disturbed.
 - D. She asked us to leave quietly in order not to be disturbed.
4. His new girlfriend is very lazy. She spends money wastefully.
- A. Not only was his girlfriend very lazy but she also spent money wastefully.
 - B. His girlfriend is very lazy, but she spends money wastefully as well.
 - C. His girlfriend spend money wastefully but she is also very lazy.
 - D. Not only is his girlfriend very lazy but spends money wastefully also.
5. Alan worked too hard. This led to his illness.
- A. Alan's illness led to his working hard.
 - B. Alan's hard work resulted in his illness.
 - C. Alan's illness caused his hard work.
 - D. Alan's hard work was the result of his illness.