

INTERNATIONAL GREETINGS

Read and choose the best word for the gap.

A (1) _____ of greetings are international: shaking hands, kissing and bowing. But where people shake hands or bow and exactly (2) _____ they do it can often (3) _____ problems. In the UK, (4) _____ example, it is unusual to kiss people you don't know (5) _____, but this is the rule in countries such as Russia or Italy. In the USA and in (6) _____ European countries, shaking hands is a quick greeting. In Singapore or in China, a handshake (7) _____ last up to ten seconds or longer. Likewise, the number of kisses depends (8) _____ the country and sometimes even the regions of a country. In France people usually kiss twice, both (9) _____ they meet and when they leave, but it can be three or even four times in Paris. Telephone greetings (10) _____ vary. In Germany people (11) _____ the phone with their last name, in Denmark with their first name and in the UK with "Hello" or the telephone number. In the Czech Republic they say "Please": in Greece they say "Can I help you", and in Italy "I'm ready".

