



## ENGLISH ACTIVITIES

### UNIT 13: 'CULTURE'

#### WORKING WITH WORDS

1

Choose the correct ending for each sentence.

- 1 In a collectivist culture .
- 2 If a company is cautious, .
- 3 In an egalitarian company, .
- 4 If you are respectful towards other cultures, .
- 5 If a company has strict rules, .

2

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 Business travellers make mistakes when they are not aware  local customs.
- 2 My new company is not  of people arriving late for meetings.
- 3 When travelling for work, it's important to be  about the local culture.
- 4 Before I go abroad I like to speak to someone who is  with the local culture.
- 5 We've tried to create a company which is  of different cultures.
- 6 We make sure our managers understand cultural differences and are  to them.
- 7 I found it difficult to adjust  eating different food.

## BUSINESS COMMUNICATION

3

Choose the correct words to complete the conversation.

A I remember having some problems when I was trying to rent an apartment abroad.

B What  ?

A It  that no one wanted to rent their apartment to a foreigner.

B Go on.

A  time went by, I became more and more worried. I couldn't find anywhere to live.

B So why wouldn't people rent to foreigners?

A It was  the fact that many foreigners rented apartments and then left without paying.

B Oh no! So how did you  the problem?

A  the end I rented an apartment from a friend. That was much easier.

4

Complete the conversation with the verbs in brackets, using the past continuous or the past perfect.

A My business trip to London yesterday was a complete disaster.

B What went wrong? What was the first problem?

A It \_\_\_\_\_ when I left home to go to the airport. (snow)

B Ah! They \_\_\_\_\_ it on TV the night before. (not / mention)

A When we arrived, they \_\_\_\_\_ our flight already. (cancel)

B Oh no!

A And everyone \_\_\_\_\_ at the check-in desk. (complain)

B But the other people \_\_\_\_\_ for you in London? (wait)

A Yes, but when the meeting started, no one \_\_\_\_\_ ! (arrive)

## LANGUAGE AT WORK

5

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 After I sent Alistair an email I realized I  his name correctly.
- 2 I met Veronica at the gym because she  that afternoon.
- 3 I saw Fiona just as I  to go home.
- 4 He was at a TV studio yesterday because he  a training film.
- 5 Nick got home at 11.00 p.m. because he  the office late.
- 6 While I  the letters, my pen broke.
- 7 He showed us the training video he  in the studio ten years ago.
- 8 She  with Brian before they worked together in Ireland.

## EMAIL

6

Complete the email with the correct words.

Hi Steve

I'm  sorry that your sales trip over here was unsuccessful. I have to  some responsibility for this. In this country, people place a high  on personal relationships and like to  to know customers before they do business, so your visit probably wasn't . If you make a second trip soon and build relationships, you should be more successful. So, I'll look forward to seeing you again soon.

7

Complete the email with the correct words.

alternative

apologies

instead

rather

sorry

Dear Ms Paris

I was extremely [ ] to hear about the problems you had at the airport. I understand you had to wait a long time before you were finally met by Brad. The misunderstanding occurred because our company has an [ ] name. Brad was holding a sign with our EU company name [ ] of our US company name, as he thought you were arriving from Athens, Greece, [ ] than Athens, Georgia.

Please accept our [ ] for this inconvenience.

8

There are 10 questions. Choose the option that best fits each one.

1 The problem with this company is that it isn't open \_\_\_\_\_ new ideas.

☐ of   ☐ for   ☐ to

2 We are an egalitarian company, \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ so we try to treat everyone equally   ☐ so there is a big distance between managers and staff  
☐ so we never ask normal employees for their opinions

3 This is a hierarchical organization. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ There are two managers working with a hundred staff   ☐ There aren't any managers and we all work together  
☐ There are sixteen levels of management

4 We have very strict rules here. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ You can do what you like   ☐ You have to follow the rules   ☐ You only have to follow the rules if you think they are useful

5 I wasn't familiar \_\_\_\_\_ their business customs.

☐ of   ☐ about   ☐ with

6 You need to be \_\_\_\_\_ of all different kinds of behaviour.

☐ tolerate   ☐ tolerable   ☐ tolerant

7 I am now \_\_\_\_\_ about the British way of doing business.

☐ inform   ☐ informed   ☐ informing

8 Are you aware \_\_\_\_\_ the different culture in this country?

☐ of   ☐ to   ☐ from

9 It's difficult to adjust \_\_\_\_\_ life in a new country.

☐ of   ☐ to   ☐ with

10 Markus is very \_\_\_\_\_ of people's different cultural backgrounds.

☐ respect   ☐ respectful   ☐ respected