

Reading

1- Read the texts. Match the texts (A-C) to the sentences (1-6). You can use each letter more than once.

There is one example.

A — Thailand

In Thailand, we don't hug or kiss each other when we meet. We greet friends and colleagues with 'wai'. Wai is a gesture. A wai can mean "Hello," "Thank you," "I'm sorry," or "Goodbye." You put your hands together and bow your head while looking down. The tips of your thumbs should touch your chin for a friend and your nose for someone older than you. The higher your hands, the more respect you show. Not returning someone's wai is rude. However, today younger people usually wave and even hug their friends.

B — Japan

In Japan, the formal way to greet each other is by bowing. Foreign visitors can shake hands and bow their head a little when they meet, or just nod their head. The bow is quick, you don't smile and there is little, or no, eye contact. In a conversation, when you are listening to a Japanese person, it is important to nod your head. This shows that you are listening and that you understand the speaker. When you wave your hand in front of your face, it means 'no' or 'I don't know'. Don't stand too close to the other person and never touch or hug them.

C — New Zealand

In New Zealand, the formal way to greet each other is by shaking hands and smiling. You should use a New Zealander's surname and not their first name, until the person suggests it. When greeting a New Zealand Maori, it is important to touch your nose and forehead to the other person's, and shake their hand. This is called 'hongi' and it shows that you understand and respect the Maori culture. When in conversation with a Maori, never say negative things about New Zealand or its people. Treat everyone with respect.

Example: Where do you put your hands together when you bow? A

1. In which country is it never okay to touch someone?

2. In which country do you touch your chin? _

3. In which country do you and your friend touch noses and foreheads?

4. In which country do you nod to show you are listening?

5. In which country do people usually shake hands when they meet?

6. In which country is there a gesture that has many meanings?

Kimonos

A kimono is a traditional Japanese item of clothing which means 'thing to wear' in Japanese. It is worn by men, women and children. A kimono has long, wide sleeves. It doesn't have buttons or a zip. You wrap it around your body, and tie it with a special sash called an 'obi', which is tied at the back. You don't wear kimonos with trainers or high heels. Instead, you have to wear special sandals called 'zori'.

In the past, people wore kimonos every day. Nowadays, people rarely wear kimonos in everyday life. However, the kimono is always worn for important festivals and special occasions.

Children and teens wear bright colourful kimonos with lots of beautiful designs. Men and married women usually wear darker colours like dark blue, dark green, brown and grey. Their designs are also smaller and simpler. For formal occasions, Japanese people wear dark kimonos with no designs. Red and white are lucky colours and are worn by brides on their wedding day.

People wear heavy silk kimonos in the fall and winter and light kimonos made of cotton or linen in the summer. The colour and designs of kimonos change with the different seasons. For example, in the fall, you might wear a kimono with leaves and colours such as brown, red and dark green. In the summer, you would wear bright colours such as blue and yellow with designs of water and summer grass.

Example: How do you close a kimono?

A with buttons B with a zip C with a sash

7. What kind of shoes do you wear with a kimono?

A sandals B trainers C high heels

8. When do people wear kimonos?

A every day B in the past C special occasions

9. Who wears bright colours?

A men B teens C married women

10. Which colours are lucky?

A red and white B blue and green C brown and grey

11. What are winter kimonos made of?

- A linen
- B silk
- C cotton

12. You would wear a kimono with ___ in the fall.

- A water
- B grass
- C leaves