

UNIT 4

OUR CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

A. PHONETICS

I. Look at the pictures and write the clusters /spr/ or /str/.



1. ___eet



2. ___ing



3. ___ing



4. ___inkler



5. ___out



6. ___awberry



7. ___ay



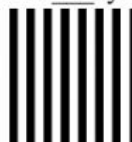
8. ___ong



9. ___eam



10. ___ain



11. ___ipe



12. ___ead



13. new ___int



14. pede ___ian



15. off ___ing



16. fru ___ated

II. Underline the words with /spr/ and circle the words with /str/. Read the sentences.

- People in Poland celebrate the first day of spring with dramatic fashion, and they parade through the street.
- The bean seed sprouted from straw is an example of overcoming challenges.
- The string was attached to the back of the participant's shorts and unwound during the sprint.
- Spread potatoes out in a pan, spray them with coconut oil, and sprinkle a half of spices over the potatoes.
- Astronauts aboard the ISS have blended the first espresso in space.
- Pedestrians greeting strangers seems to be the custom in our town.
- Would you like orange juice and *Sprite* mixed with strawberries?
- It's their tradition to call surname first, and they may feel frustrated if you mispronounce it.

B. VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR

I. Match the word or phrase with its definition.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. custom | a. the feeling of being comfortable and happy in a particular place or with a particular group of people |
| 2. tradition | b. the knives, forks, and spoons that you use for eating food |

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 3. sharp | c. an accepted way of behaving or of doing things |
| 4. table manners | d. exactly right |
| 5. cutlery | e. all the people who were born at about the same time |
| 6. prong | f. a belief, custom or way of doing something that has existed for a long time |
| 7. generation | g. the socially acceptable way to eat your food, especially when eating a meal with others |
| 8. sense of belonging | h. each of the two or more long pointed parts of a fork |
| 9. host | i. at a particular time exactly |
| 10. spot on | j. a person who invites guests to a meal, a party, etc. |

II. Complete the sentences with the words in part I.

- Your _____ are awful - don't you know how to use a knife and fork?
- The major items of _____ in Western dining style are the knife, fork and spoon.
- The extended family generally consists of at least three _____ – grandparents, parents and children living together.
- The _____ will offer you drinks or foods if he invites you to his home.
- It's the _____ in Japan to take your shoes off when you go into someone's house.
- The weather forecast was _____ – it rained all day!
- Are you sure that other people have had a _____ in your group?
- My extended family has a _____ of having reunions every summer.
- You shouldn't point the _____ of the fork upwards during the meal.
- Please be here at seven o'clock _____.

III. Complete the sentences with the correct form or tense of the verbs in the box.

respect wrap worship pass take reflect reunite break

- She _____ the present in red paper and tied it with yellow ribbon.
- All students should _____ their teachers.
- The culture of *xoe* dancing _____. Thai people's lifestyle and culture.
- We decided _____ with tradition and go away for Tet holidays.
- In my family the tradition that has been _____ down is eating together every Sunday.
- Almost every Vietnamese household sets an altar _____ their ancestors.
- It is considered very impolite not _____ off your shoes before entering a house in Japan.
- Lots of people come back _____ their families during Tet holiday.

IV. Match the two halves to make a full sentence.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. In Vietnam, it is not uncommon | 5. My province broke with tradition by |
| 2. If you are invited to a Swede's home, | a. everyone will give moon cakes to their parents, relatives or friends. |
| 3. It's our tradition at Mid-Autumn festival that | b. not having fireworks on New Year's Eve. |
| 4. It's the custom in Mexico to | c. you should bring a gift such as chocolates, flowers or liquors as the Swedish gift giving custom. |

- d. you take off your shoes before going into a house.
- e. for three generations to be living together under one roof.
- 6. It's an old custom in many birthday parties that
- 7. Considered as the symbol of Vietnamese tradition,
- 8. There is a custom in Japan that
- f. *Ao dai* is most commonly worn by women at school, work and on special occasions.
- g. the birthday cake is decorated with lighted candles.
- h. tip 10% for passable service and 15% for good service.

V. Complete the sentences with *should* or *shouldn't*.

1. In Japan, you _____ point at people or things because it's considered rude.
2. When invited to a Vietnamese home, you _____ bring gifts wrapped in brightly coloured paper.
3. You _____ stand up chopsticks in your food between mouthfuls or when finished – it resembles incense sticks that are burned in memory of the dead.
4. You _____ sweep your house on the first three days of the new year because all your money and success will be swept out too.
5. You _____ smile and say "thank you" when receiving a gift.
6. When travelling on public transport, you _____ avoid loud phone conversations.
7. When visiting Thailand, you _____ mention the King and do anything that's disrespectful.
8. You _____ take your shoes off when entering homes or temples.
9. You _____ use both hands when giving and receiving things.
10. When dining in Thailand, you _____ eat with your fork, but do use it to push food onto your spoon.

VI. Write the second sentence, using *should* or *shouldn't* and the words given.

1. White and black are colours of funeral in Vietnam. (you/ wear/ white or black clothes/ the first days/ the New Year)

2. The Japanese take punctuality seriously. (we/ arrive/ on time)

3. Respecting old people is our tradition. (you/ say "hi"/ when/ meet/ old people)

4. In India, food isn't seen clean once it touches your plate. (you/ never/ offer/ the food in your plate/ anyone)

5. In Thailand, the head is seen as the most sacred part of the body. (you/ never/ touch/ adult or child/ the head)

6. Alcohol is not good for your health. (you/ try/ alcohol)

7. You've had that headache for two days. (I/ think/ you/ go/ the doctor)

8. It's not good for you to sit still for long and look at a screen. (you/ watch TV/ use the Internet/

for long)

VII. Complete the sentences with the correct form of *have to* and the verbs in brackets.

1. When visiting a temple, tourists _____ (follow) some important customs.
2. The secretary _____ (answer) all the phone calls at work.
3. I _____ (go) to work tomorrow. There's a holiday.
4. _____ we _____ (buy) another ticket to see this part of the castle?
5. Everyone _____ (recycle) as much as possible.
6. Susan _____ (come) to the town with us if she doesn't want to.
7. In our country, children _____ (wear) a uniform at school.
8. _____ he _____ (do) his work tonight? Can he do it tomorrow?
9. You _____ (put) a stamp on this letter. It says FREEPOST on it.
10. We _____ (stop) talking when the lesson starts.
11. _____ all the students _____ (take) the final test?
12. She _____ (take) an umbrella. I'm sure it isn't going to rain.
13. I _____ (leave) the party early last night – I wasn't very well.
14. It was a lovely holiday. We _____ (do) anything.
15. The children are happy because they _____ (do) any homework today.

VIII. Underline the correct form.

1. Children *must* / *have to* start school when they are five.
2. In many countries, you *should* / *must* wear a seat belt in the car - it's the law.
3. I know you like sugar but you *shouldn't* / *don't have to* eat quite so much - it's bad for you.
4. I'm not working tomorrow, so I *mustn't* / *don't have to* get up early.
5. The manager suggested that we *have to* / *should* try to find another hotel.
6. Kids *should* / *have to* wear a life vest. That's bur regulation.
7. You *mustn't* / *don't have to* smoke in here; smoking isn't allowed in the airport.
8. You *must* / *should* hand in your homework on Tuesday or your mark will be zero.
9. You *have to* / *don't have to* dress up for the party. Wear whatever you feel comfortable in.
10. You *should* / *have to* ask the teacher to help you if you don't understand the lesson.

IX. Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

1. You look really tired. You _____ take a few days off and have a holiday.
a. should b. must c. have to d. can
2. In Vietnam, you _____ take a deep bow as you do in Japan.
a. mustn't b. don't have to c. should d. shouldn't
3. Sorry, but my train is at 6.00. I _____ leave now.
a. shouldn't b.ought to c. mustn't d. have to
4. You _____ look' at other students' work. It's against the rules.
a. shouldn't b. don't have to c. mustn't d. can't
5. The airline only allows two piecesof luggage. You _____ pack too much!
a. shouldn't b. mustn't c. don't have to d. couldn't

6. John can't come because he _____ work tomorrow.
a. should b. can c. must d. has to
7. I know they enjoy their work, but they _____ work at the weekends. It's not good for them.
a. shouldn't b. don't have to c. mustn't d. have to
8. Elderly people _____ be treated with great respect
a. shouldn't b. should c. aren't obliged to d. mustn't
9. He _____ use chopsticks for spring roll. It is finger food.
a. must b. has to c. doesn't have to d. should
10. Everyone _____ wear a helmet when riding a motorbike. It's mandatory according to traffic law.
a. isn't allowed to b. must c. can d. shouldn't

X. Choose the correct option, a, b or c to complete the sentences.

1. _____ sit here, or do you want me to sit somewhere else?
a. Could you b. Shall I c. Why don't we
2. I don't think you've understood this. _____ look at Unit 12 again.
a. If I were you b. You shouldn't c. I think you should
3. We need to talk about our presentation. _____ meet after school tomorrow?
a. Why don't we b. How about c. Do we have to
4. That's not very nice way to talk to other people. _____ speak like that.
a. Is it all right if I b. Would you mind c. I don't think you should
5. Mrs Allan is leaving at the end of term. _____ buy her a present.
a. Let's b. We don't have to c. Why not
6. I don't think I can do this on my own. _____ helping me?
a. Would you like b. I think you should c. Do you mind
7. Parking in this street is prohibited. _____ park here.
a. I think you should b. You mustn't c. You don't have to
8. I'm sorry I haven't got my homework. _____ forget it again?
a. Do you mind if I b. Shall I c. Why don't we

XI. Complete each sentence with a suitable preposition.

1. Today we're going to learn _____ customs and traditions.
2. The tradition has been passed _____ from father to son for generations.
3. They still follow the custom _____ pinning money to the bride's dress.
4. Vietnamese women often wear *ao dai* _____ special occasions.
5. We decided to break _____ tradition and have fish for Thanksgiving dinner.
6. They take their shoes _____ when entering the house to avoid getting the floor dirty.
7. According to tradition, we have fireworks _____ New Year's Eve.
8. It is the custom in that country _____ women to marry young.
9. We often talk about our day at school or work _____ the dinner table.
10. Gifts should be wrapped _____ colourful paper.

C. SPEAKING

I. Complete the dialogue with the appropriate phrases or sentences (A - H).

A. What should I do at the dinner table?

B. Try to finish everything on your plate.

C. and do not sit down until the oldest member has seated.

D. Do you mind if I ask you something

E. place your chopsticks, fork or knife on your bowl or plate.

F. You can ask whatever you want.

G. Do I have to wear formal clothes?

H. What should I do when I'm invited to a Vietnamese house for a meal?

Maria: Hi, Mai! I'm going to take a trip to Vietnam next month.

(1) _____ about Vietnamese customs and etiquette?

Mai: Not at all. (2) _____

Marla: (3) _____

Mai: You should bring a small gift, such as flowers, fruits or sweets wrapped in colourful paper.

Maria: What should I wear? (4) _____

Mai: No. Just dress conservatively.

Maria: (5) _____

Mai: Wait to be shown where to sit (6) _____

Maria: What else?

Mai: (7) _____ Leaving food on your plate is considered impolite... When you have finished eating, (8) _____

Maria: Thanks for all.

II. Rearrange the sentences to make a complete conversation.

_____ Thanks for teaching me. How about the customs before a meal? I'm a little nervous...

_____ No. We sit on a mat with foods on a tray in the middle. Everyone has a bowl and a pair of chopsticks.

_____ Let's see if I can follow you!

_____ No, in my parents' house. We'll have a big meal with my family members.

_____ Yes, you can have a spoon, but no fork and knife. I'll teach you to use chopsticks.

_____ In your parents' house? But I don't know your table manners.

1 _____ Hey Jennifer! I would like to invite you to our dinner.

_____ Chopsticks? I don't know how to use them. Is there any fork, knife or spoon?

_____ Don't worry! You're a foreigner, so you don't have to know the manners clearly.

_____ Wow, that's nice. Where? In a restaurant?

_____ It'll be OK, Jennifer! Just follow my directions when we get home.

_____ I should learn something first though. Do you sit around a table?

D. READING

I. Fill in each blank with a word from the box.

simply bow given rather addressing usual wai with

Thais often greet one another with a *wai* – a palms-together gesture accompanied by a (1)_____, slight bend of knees and smile. ‘Khun’ is used as a prefix, instead of Mr and Ms when (2)_____ people. It can be used for both males and females, For example, a 30-year-old male, Kullawat Chaowanawatee, will (3)_____ be Khun Kullawat. Every Thai has a nickname, and once you are more familiar with people it is (4)_____ for them to encourage you to call them by their nickname instead of their first name. Most Thai nicknames are single syllable words which are (5)_____ from birth and can be Thai or English words, colours, fruits, or shortenings of their first name.

Thais don’t use ‘please’, ‘thank you’ and ‘hello’. Instead of saying ‘thank you’, ‘hello’ or ‘good bye’, many Thais simply smile or offer a (6)_____ equivalent of ‘please’ in Thai is complex and varies (7)_____ the rank and status one is speaking to. Many Thais ask ‘where are you going?’ (8)_____ than saying, ‘How are you?’

II. Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answers.

GIFT-GIVING CUSTOMS IN VIETNAM

Gift giving is important in Vietnam because of the significance of interpersonal relationships in Vietnamese culture.

First and foremost, do not encourage corruption. There is a clear cut between gift-giving and bribery. Nevertheless, it is common in Vietnam for exchanging small gifts on certain occasions such as anniversary, Tet holiday... to express your respect, love, appreciation or gratitude.

Gift-giving customs depend on the context. If it is a private gift for one Vietnamese partner you should give the gift at a private occasion. If you have a gift for the whole office or company, you should give it after the business meeting with the whole office’s employee.

Do not wrap a gift in the black paper because this colour is unlucky and associated with funerals in Vietnam. Gifts that symbolize cutting such as scissors, knives and other sharp objects should be avoided because they mean the cutting of the relationship.

Vietnamese may or may not open these gifts when they are received; leave the option to them. You will also receive gifts and should defer to your host as to whether you should open it when received or not. Regardless of when it is opened or what it is, profuse thanks are always appropriate.

1. According to the passage, why is gift giving important in Vietnam?
 - a. Because it helps to establish a friendship.
 - b. Because it’s common in Vietnamese culture.
 - c. Because it’s the best way to build up a stable relationship.
 - d. Because personal relationships play a vital role in Vietnamese culture.
2. Which of the followings should not be a reason for gift giving?
 - a. To show appreciation
 - b. To bribe somebody
 - c. To express gratitude
 - d. To show affection
3. When giving a gift, you should _____.
 - a. wrap it in black or white paper
 - b. give it in the business meeting
 - c. never give sharp objects, such as knives or scissors
 - d. avoid giving it at a private occasion

4. When receiving a gift, you should _____.
 - a. always say "thank you?"
 - b. try to find what is it
 - c. open it in front of the giver
 - d. ask your host to open it
5. Which of the following is NOT true about gift giving customs in Vietnam?
 - a. Gift giving is a good way of strengthening relationships.
 - b. Gifts for your partners should be given at private occasions.
 - c. You should avoid giving anything sharp.
 - d. It is considered rude not to open the gift in front of the giver.

E. WRITING

I. Put the words in order to make sentences.

1. If/ a/ should/ Vietnamese home/ bring/ invited/ to/ gift/ you/ a/ small

2. as/ custom/ ojigi/ bowing/ in/ Known/ is/ important/ Japan/ an

3. greeting/ shake hands/ when/ saying/ The Vietnamese/ and/ both/ when/ good-bye

4. don't/ wear/ a/ You/ tie/ to/ have to/ dinner party/ if/ want to/ you/ don't/ a

5. taking off/ when/ house/ a/ It's/ entering/ the Japanese/ shoes/ custom/ of

6. follow/ cleaning/ the tradition/ the house/ Do/ before/ we/ of/ have to/ Tet?

7. We/ together/ on/ have/ dinner/ a/ family/ of/ eating/ New Year's Eve/ tradition.

8. wear/ occasions/ special/ on/ women/ Vietnamese/ ao dai/ usually

II. Rewrite the sentence using the word in brackets.

1. It's impolite of them to wear hats in the pagoda. (shouldn't)

2. Children have to live with their parents until they reach the age of 18. (obliged)

3. Is it necessary for me to tip in a coffee shop? (have to)

4. It's not mandatory for staff to wear vests in their company. (need)

5. It's good for us to keep our traditional customs. (should)

6. It's really important to remove your shoes when entering a temple. (must)

7. Photography is not allowed at some sacred places. (mustn't)

8. It's Saturday tomorrow, so it's not necessary for Jane to get up early. (have to)

9. If I were you, I'd ask them about their customs. (should)

10. Why don't we look for the information on the Internet? (how)

TEST FOR UNIT 4

I. Choose the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from that of the others.

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. a. wrap | b. worship | c. wear | d. wife |
| 2. a. chopstick | b. tradition | c. gift | d. knife |
| 3. a. obligation | b. occasion | c. expression | d. celebration |
| 4. a. mat | b. tray | c. place | d. table |
| 5. a. cutlery | b. custom | c. compliment | d. circle |

II. Complete each sentence with a suitable word.

1. Good table _____ make for a more pleasant meal!
2. Many family _____ have been passed down through generations.
3. We are Christian, so our family has the _____ of giving presents at Christmas.
4. We decided to _____ with tradition and have fish for Thanksgiving dinner.
5. You _____ touch an adult's head or shoulders because it's disrespectful.
6. Family traditions provide family members with a sense of _____.
7. Lots of people come _____ to reunite with their families during the Obon festival.
8. A typical extended family in Vietnam often includes three _____; grandparents, parents, and children.

III. Choose the best answer a, b, c or d to complete the sentence.

1. There's a tradition of having parties _____ Christmas.
a. on b. in c. at d. for
2. Generally, rice is served _____ fish, meat, soup and vegetable.
a. to b. as c. in d. with
3. You _____ speak when the teacher is speaking.
a. needn't b. can't c. don't have to d. mustn't
4. Christmas Eve is the day _____ people in some countries exchange their presents.
a. that b. which c. when d. what
5. Japanese have developed the custom of eating meals sitting on tatami _____, not on chairs
a. towels b. prongs c. trays d. mats
6. You have to _____ your hat when going inside the main worship area of the temple.
a. take off b. put on c. break with d. get out