Stereotypes

1. Complete the text using the correct form of the words

DO WE SEE OURSELVES AS WE REALLY ARE?

The English are cold and reserved. _____**(Brazil)** are lively and fun-loving, and the _____**(Japan)** are shy and hardworking - these are examples of national stereotypes which are widely believed, not only by other _____ **(nation)** but also by many people among the nationality themselves. But how much truth is there in such stereotypes?

A team of _____ **(psychology)** have investigated the subject and the results of their research are surprising. They found that people from a particular country do share some general features, but that these features are often very different from the stereotype.

In the largest survey of its kind, the team used tests to establish shared _____ **(character)** among forty-nine different nationalities around the world. They then interviewed thousands of people from the groups and asked them to describe typical members of their own nationality. In most cases, the stereotype was very different from the results of the tests, i.e. the reality.

2. Fill in each space with an appropriate word from the list

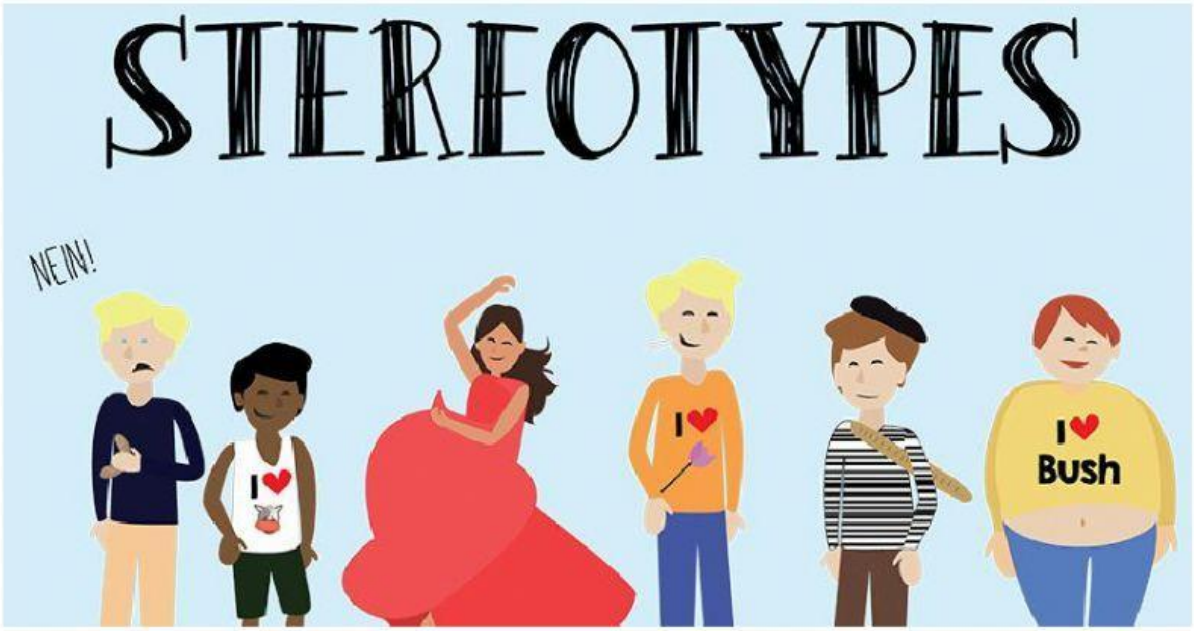
NERVOUS EMBARRASSED ENJOYABLE
BAD-TEMPERED USUAL ORDINARY ANXIOUS FORMAL
AMUSING TYPICAL SHY AFRAID
TIRESOME ASHAMED SYMPATHETIC

CULTURE SHOCK

Penny, a friend of mine, has just got back from a trip to Japan. She had a very _____ time but there were occasions, she says, when the rather

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_____ behavior of her hosts led to moments of cultural confusion, and at times she even felt _____ by some of the mistakes she made. For example, it is _____ for Europeans to call each other by their first names, but this is not the _____ way of addressing people in Japan Now, because Penny was _____ to show everyone how friendly she was, she called everyone by their first name. Most people were _____ because she was obviously a foreigner but some became quite_____ and showed little sympathy.
At first, Penny found bowing to people quite _____ as she is an actress after all, but after a while it became a bit _____ having to bow to everyone you met. Penny is not at all _____ but after the first misunderstandings, she was _____ to open her mouth in case she offended someone. I myself am quite an experienced traveler, but I would feel _____ about putting my foot in it in Japan because there even _____ people observe the most elaborate rules of social behavior. Silence, for example is nothing to be _____ of in Japanese culture, but in the West we get very worried if there are even short periods of silence at social gatherings.



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