talk english

VOCAB AND GRAMMAR REVIEW

UNIT 13 CUTURAL DIFFERENCES

Five cultural mistakes

There are almost 200 countries in the world, but there are even more cultures. Something simple that you do in your country might not [1] *be* (be) a good idea in another. Next time you decide [2] _____ (go) abroad, this advice might [3] _____ (save) you from an embarrassing situation!

A *Meetings and greetings*

The safest thing to do is shake hands. But you always need [4] _____ (be) ready for different customs. In Japan, people bow. In Italy people often kiss. If I'm not sure, I wait and see what other people do. And don't wear gloves when you shake hands! Many cultures think it's rude.



B _____

When you meet someone, listen carefully to their name and any title – Mr, Mrs, Professor. If you didn't hear someone's name or title, then ask again. And don't forget [5] _____ (use) that title!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C .....

This is usually a difficult subject in any culture. You probably shouldn't [6] ..... (ask) someone what they earn. But in some cultures, it's common to discuss such things. So don't be surprised if someone asks you!

D .....

Food is important in almost all cultures. And many people believe their national food is the best in the world. So some things might be different – but they won't [7] ..... (kill) you! Try the local food and *always* say something nice about it.

E .....

Every country is different. And every culture does things differently. Yes, you probably prefer [8] ..... (do) things the way you normally do. But you're not at home now. So don't say "It's much cheaper *or* bigger *or* better at home."

I. **Read the article and write the headings 1-5 in the correct places A-E**

1. Eating and drinking
2. Meetings and greetings
3. Making comparisons
4. Talking about money
5. Names and titles

II. **Fill in the gaps in the article with the correct form of the verbs in the brackets.**

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III. Read the article again. What does the writer think? Are these sentences TRUE (T) or FALSE (F).

1. There are less than 200 different cultures in the world.
2. It's better not to talk about the subject of money.
3. The best way to greet people in different countries is to shake hands or kiss.
4. It's important to call people by their first name.
5. Food is always cuturally important.
6. You will often prefer the way you do things at home.

LIVEWORKSHEETS