



Different strokes for different folks

2

First read the texts and then match them with the photos in your exercise book. Write only the letter of the photo and the number of the text. Then complete activity 2 on page 20 of the Skills Book.



In different countries and cultures, there are different ways of doing and saying things. What is polite in one country may not be polite in another. Knowing where and when to do something, what to say and how to say it, is very important. Here are some things that different ITC members thought were important to know about their countries if you decide to visit them. Who knows, it may also help you to overcome culture shock!

1

Hi,

I'm John from Canada. If you ever visit my country, you may want to remember the following things to help you along:

- When talking to someone, it's polite always to look them in the eye.
- It is rude to wave your arms or point too much.
- It is respectful for a man to stand up when a woman enters a room and to greet her by slightly nodding his head.
- It is impolite to stand too close to people.

Bonjour,

I'm Ronaldo. In Brazil we do things slightly differently from other people. I've put together some tips for visitors. Hope you find them useful.

- When people meet, it is friendly to serve strong black coffee.
- Be prepared to have people standing close to you when you are talking or waiting in a queue.
- If you enjoy something or want to show how appreciative you are, then pinch your earlobe with your thumb and forefinger.
- If you want to show someone that what you say is important, then snap your fingers and whip your hands down.

2





3

Assalaam alaykum,

I'm Ferazau and I live in Iran. There are lots of things you can do to make your stay in Iran better.

- a. It's well-mannered to take off your shoes before you enter a house.
- b. It is **offensive** to show a thumbs up sign.
- c. You can always show respect to the parents of a child by shaking the child's hand.
- d. To get someone's attention, put your hand out with your palm down and curl your fingers back and forth.

Sawadi ka,

That's how we say hello in Thailand. My name is Toi and I'd like to tell you about some of the things that may help you when you visit my country.

4

- a. It is good luck to step over a doorsill when entering someone's house.
- b. It is **ill-mannered** to shake hands when we meet people. Instead, we put our hands together in front of us.
- c. It is **courteous** to lower the upper part of your body slightly when you pass in front of someone, especially someone older than you.
- d. It is **bad-mannered** to pat someone on the back.



1

Focus Questions

Read the texts for activity 2 on page 17 of the Classbook. Then answer the focus questions with short answers in your exercise book.

Why will knowing about other countries help you get over culture shock?

1

How should a man behave if a woman enters a room in Canada?

2

Which part of the body
do you pinch if you want
to show you like
something in Brazil? **3**

How do people
greet each other
in Thailand? **5**



2 Adjectives.

Read the following information about the adjectives **polite** and **impolite** below. Then sort the highlighted adjectives in texts 1–4 on page 17 of the Classbook that have similar meanings and write them below in the appropriate box.

polite is an adjective that means speaking or doing things in a way that is right for the situation you are in. This shows you are thinking about the feelings of others.

impolite is also an adjective. It means the opposite of polite and shows that you do not care about others or the situation you are in.

