

Read the text and choose one of the variants.



Americans are not big gift-givers. They have learned something of the role that gift-giving plays in certain other cultures, but among themselves they don't see the need for presents.

Even friends may never exchange presents. When they go abroad, they try to bring back little souvenirs for close friends, but nobody would feel upset if they didn't. I rarely remember a friend's birthday, and few people outside of my family remember mine. If someone gave me presents too often, I'd get annoyed. However, a gift from a foreigner – typical of his or her homeland – won't go wrong, except to government employees who aren't allowed to accept gifts.

You usually open a present immediately and in front of the person who gives it. The only exceptions to this are Christmas, birthday and wedding presents. The best reaction is delight at receiving something so lovely.

Christmas is the one occasion when they give gifts to the family and sometimes friends. They also give gifts to people who have been helpful during the year – doormen, babysitters, housecleaners and newspaper deliverers – anyone who has served them regularly



1. When you travel abroad

- A you aren't expected to bring anything back.
- B you shouldn't bring back souvenirs.
- C you are expected to bring back souvenirs for close friends.
- D people would be annoyed if you gave them a souvenir.



2. A gift from a foreigner which is typical of his or her homeland, would

- A be unwelcome.
- B be received with pleasure.
- C cause embarrassment.
- D annoy the receiver.

3. At Christmas it is customary to give presents to

- A business colleagues.
- B members of the family only.
- C people who have served you during the year.
- D close friends and family only.



4. In the writer's opinion, gift-giving in the USA is

- A not an important social custom.
- B culturally unacceptable.
- C only traditional within the family.
- D only acceptable at Christmas.



5. "I try to bring back little souvenirs for close friends."

A close friend is someone

- A you have only just met.
- B you know very well.
- C you haven't seen for a long time.
- D of your own sex.