

Exploring Language of Cultural Acts

Task 2: How do I use this word?

Choose two of the following Costa Rican words, phrases, and sounds list the following:

- Meaning(s)
- Communicative acts (functions) or scenarios of use
- Example in context

Diay

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations
Hi!	When you see a person and acknowledge his/ her presence	Diay Dani! Tanto tiempo! Que me cuentas?	Rising intonation, long expression Smile on your face, showing some excitement you are seeing this person, It can't be isolated, it needs a complementary phrase like Cómo estás/ tanto tiempo/ que me cuentas. pura vida etc.
Complaint	When you don't like something or you are surprised (negatively)	When someone bumps into you or spills a beverage on you and you are upset.	Rising intonation but with an upset tone of voice. Your facial expression shows you are annoyed, You raise your shoulders and use your hands as a way of confrontation.
Filler	To answer a question or narrate a story.	Ester how is everything going? -Diay, No me quejo. -Diay, esta esta semana ha sido de locos.	Flat intonation, monotonous, very short and quick, it is followed by a story or a quick phrase.
Way to check on someone	If you want to know what happened to a person that suffered an accident or a predicament.	Diay, que le pasó? -me quemé!.	All the phrase is with rising intonation, expressing surprise and concern. Your facial expression is of preoccupation / worry / concern.

Pura Vida

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations

AI Chile

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations

¡Pucha! / ¡Púchica!

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations

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Task 3: Features of a Practice

Read the charts below that describe the features of practices. Choose one of the following acts in your culture and describe the features that are involved: **Greeting, Leave Taking, Thanking, Apologizing, Declining an Invitation, Asking for a Favor, others**. Write some key words or phrases in the appropriate blue spaces in the final column. If some of the categories are not relevant, just leave them blank. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the teacher's example of knock-knock jokes.

Declining an Invitation

Linguistic	Written Language	Script	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Syntax ● Vocabulary ● Pronunciation, accent 	
	Oral Language	Phonology		
	Paralanguage	Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tone ● Volume ● Pitch ● Rate of speech 	
		Vocalizations that accompany speech		

			whistling, groaning, humming, sniffing, swallowing, throat clearing, tongue clicking, etc.	
Extralinguistic	kinesics	Body movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facial expressions • Gestures • Posture • Gait 	
	oculesics	Eye movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eye contact • Winking 	
	haptics	Touching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands • Lips • Arms 	
	olfactics	Smell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body odor • Use of perfume, fragrances 	
	proxemics	Use of physical space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance between people • Positioning of people 	
	chronemics	How actions occur in time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polychronism - many at once • Monochronism - one at a time • Synchrony - coordination of actions in time 	
	context	The role of the social situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low context - directness in speech (more explicit) • High context - indirectness in speech (more tacit) 	