

Exploring Language of Cultural Acts

Task 1: *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

Pura Vida

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations

Uuuy!

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations

¡Pucha! / ¡Púchica!

Meaning	Act or Scenario	Example	Pronunciation or Paralinguistic Considerations

Task 2: Features of a Practice

Read the charts from page 66 that describe the features of practices. Choose one of the following acts and describe the features that are involved: *Greeting, Leave Taking, Thanking, Apologizing, Declining an Invitation, Asking for a Favor, others.*

Linguistic	Written Language	Script	• Syntax • Vocabulary • Pronunciation, accent
	Oral Language	Phonology	
	Paralanguage	Voice	• Tone • Volume • Pitch • Rate of speech
		Vocalizations that accompany speech	• Interjections (ouch, oops, psst) • Onomatopoeia (bow-wow, bam, whoosh) • Coughing, laughing, gasping, whistling, groaning, humming, sniffing, swallowing, throat clearing, tongue clicking, etc.

Extralinguistic	kinesics	Body movements	• Facial expressions • Gestures • Posture • Gait
	oculesics	Eye movements	• Eye contact • Winking
	haptics	Touching	• Hands • Lips • Arms
	olfactics	Smell	• Body odor • Use of perfume, fragrances
	proxemics	Use of physical space	• Distance between people • Positioning of people
	chronemics	How actions occur in time	• Polychronism - many at once • Monochronism - one at a time • Synchrony - coordination of actions in time

	context	The role of the social situation	• Low context - directness in speech (more explicit) • High context - indirectness in speech (more tacit)
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