

CULTURE



1. Starting up.

What is culture? Choose the four factors below which you think are the most important in creating a culture?

Climate	Language	Ideas and beliefs	Art	Historical events
Cuisine	Geography	Ceremonies and festivals		Religion
Social customs and traditions				

2. What do you miss most about your country or culture when you go abroad?

3. Do you think cultures are becoming more alike? Is this a good or bad thing?

For example, think about:

- a. improved communications;
- b. cheap foreign travel;
- c. global business;
- d. trading groups (EU).

4. How important are the following things when doing business in your country?

Are they: a. important b. not important c. best avoided?

- exchanging business cards;
- shaking hands;
- kissing;
- socialising with contacts;
- small talk before meetings;
- accepting interruption;
- using first names;
- formality (how you dress, how you talk to colleagues, what names you use, etc);
- punctuality;

- humour;
- giving presents;
- being direct (saying exactly what you think).

5. Make a list of DO or DON'T for people visiting your country. Give some general cultural tips. Share them with your classmates!