



LESSON 26. CULTURES AROUND THE  
GLOBE

## Learning Objectives

**After this lesson, students will be able to:**

- Describe what a culture is.
- Discuss various traditions around the world.
- Pair a few culture related words with their correct definition.
- Employ the correct adjective for nationality and language when describing the culture of certain countries.
- Distinguish the pronunciation of the /θ/, /ð/, /dʒ/, and /ʃ/ sound.

Look closely at the clothing worn in the following pictures and guess where they are from.



Seohyun & Jung - Hoon



Hasan, Dian, Mira, Budi



Aishwarya & Deepak



Dimitri & Alexandra

India

Russia

South Korea

Indonesia

# Introduction

**Culture** is a pattern of behavior shared by a society, or group of people. Many different things make up a society's culture. Every human society has its own culture. Each culture is unique. A culture is passed on to the next generation by learning, whereas genetics are passed on by heredity.

What consists a culture?



# Vocabulary Exercise

Fill in the boxes with the missing letters.

custom	norm	ethnicity	race	ancestor	heritage	belief
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□ □ L □ E F

→ something that is accepted, considered to be true, or held as an opinion

□ O □ □

→ an accepted standard, or a way of behaving or doing things that most people agree with

C □ S □ O □

→ a way of behaving or a belief that has been established for a long time.

□ N □ □ S T □ R

→ any member of your family from long ago, for example, the grandparents of your grandparents

□ T H □ □ C □ T □

→ a particular race of people, or the fact of being from a particular race of people

□ □ C □

→ any one of the groups that humans are often divided into based on physical traits regarded as common among people of shared ancestry

□ E R □ □ A G □

→ features belonging to the culture of a particular society, such as traditions, languages, or buildings, that were created in the past and still have historical importance.



# Culture Everywhere

Where can we find them? Match the photos with the countries on the right.



1

Nasi Goreng



2

K-Pop



3

Honoring-gesture



4

Hongbao giving



5

Bowing



6

Zulu Dance



7

Hamburgers and chips



8

Wearing the Sari

- A. America
- B. Philippines
- C. India
- D. South Africa
- E. Indonesia
- F. China
- G. South Korea
- H. Japan

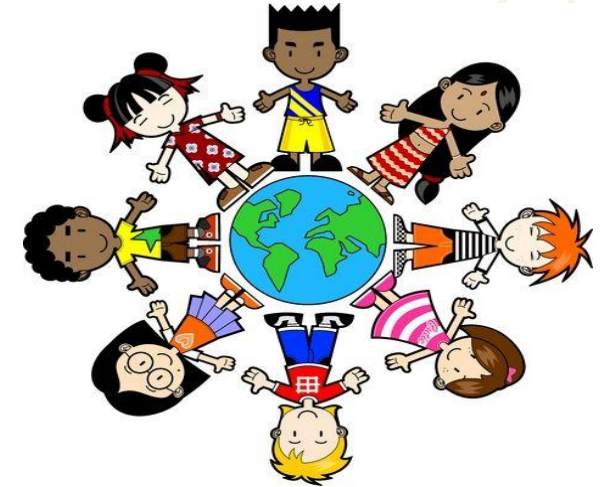
## Traditions Around The World

There are many traditions in all the countries around the world. The tradition is the way of doing something used by many people in a country.

In Egypt, Easter is a special day. At Easter, people eat salted fish. They color eggs. They have picnics. The wedding party in Egypt is very special too. The bride wears a white wedding dress. The bridegroom wears a black suit. The bridegroom gives the bride a gold present. There is always a singer in the party.

In India, the wedding party is different. The bride wears sari. It is an Indian wedding dress. The bride wears rings on her ears. She puts a ring in her nose too.

In Japan, people greet each other by bowing and shaking hands. People in Japan take off their shoes before they enter the house. They wear socks inside the house. They eat sushi in Japan. Sushi is made of rice and fish.



Adapted from: [https://www.esprintables.com/vocabulary\\_worksheets/culture\\_and\\_traditions/Traditions\\_around\\_the\\_world\\_A\\_902997/](https://www.esprintables.com/vocabulary_worksheets/culture_and_traditions/Traditions_around_the_world_A_902997/)

# Describing Customs

## Can You Describe What Your Culture Is Like?

Talk about the culture in your country.

Hello there, my name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_. We have a \_\_\_\_\_ custom in our country.

When \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_.



### Omar Sharif

- from **Egypt**
- **Food custom**
- *When eating, leave some food on your plate, it's a sign that your host has been generous in serving the food. If you eat your entire food, the host will think that you want more food.*



You
• from _____
• _____ custom
• _____
_____
_____.



### Pachara Chirathivat

- comes from **Thailand**
- **Food custom**
- *When eating, be ready to share food. Food sharing in Thailand is common.*



## Practice the dialogue about describing one's culture.

A: Hello there, my name is Sooyoung. I'm from South Korea. How about you? I think I've never seen you here before. Are you new to this school?

B: Hi Sooyoung, my name is Ming Na Wen. I'm from China and yes, today is my first day joining this school's student exchange program. This is so cool, I've never met a South Korean person before. Can you share what your culture is like?

A: Ok, I'll start with our gift-giving custom, for example, if you'd like to give a present to a South Korean, **don't wrap your gifts in green, white, or black colored wrapping paper.**

B: That's very interesting. I think we also have our own custom when it comes to giving gifts. But can you tell me the reason for that prohibition?

A: I'm sorry, I don't know what the reason is. It's just something that I learned ever since I was a kid. I should probably ask my mom. Now that you've asked about it, I'm also curious. So, how about the gift-giving custom in China?

B: Yes, if someday you're wondering what to give to your Chinese friend, please avoid giving a clock.

A: I see... well, how about you? Can you explain to me what the reason is?

B: Yes I can! **We don't give watches or clocks as a present because the word clock in Chinese sounds similar to another Chinese word that means "attending a funeral" and so we avoid it because we consider it taboo and that it brings bad luck.**



## Countries, Nationalities, and Languages

When we have to describe the culture of a certain country, we will usually have to mention or describe the nationality and the language spoken in the country. Observe the following tables.

Country	Nationality	Language
United States of America	American	_____
_____	Indonesian	Indonesian
_____	German	German
Netherland	_____	Dutch
_____	South African	English, Zulu, Xhosa, Afrikaans
Mexico	Mexican	_____
Portugal	_____	Portuguese

Country	Nationality	Language
Brazil	_____	Portuguese
_____	Vietnamese	Vietnamese
The Philippines	Filipino	Filipino
Turkey	_____	Turkish
Greece	Greek	_____
Venezuela	Venezuelan	Spanish
_____	Malaysian	Malay

Complete the missing parts of the column.

## Culture Description

Pay attention to the information provided below and change them into a short description. Follow the example:



1

- Italy
- Say “ciao” to their friends and family only

Answer:

- The people in Italy speak **Italian**.
- **Italians** say “ciao” to their friends and family only.



2

- USA
- open gifts in front of the giver



4

- Malaysia
- children in Malaysia bury their baby teeth in the ground
- it's part of their body so it should go back to the ground



3

- Turkey
- believe “evil eye” to keep you from harm



5

- Venezuela
- arrive late to a dining invitation
- guests arriving on time will be seen as greedy





## Express Yourself

1. What do you think is interesting about your culture?
2. Do you know any other people whose culture is different from yours?
3. Why do you think it's important to learn about other people's cultures? What are the advantages?
4. In your opinion, what is the best way to learn about other people's cultures? Why?
5. In how many languages can you say "hello"? Mention them.
6. Of all culture and customs you've learnt in this lesson, which one is the most interesting in your opinion?
7. How many traditional foods of your country that you can mention? Mention them.



# Pronunciation Drill

Closely pay attention to what your teacher is pronouncing. Then, decide what the pronounced word is.

	Sound	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
	θ	Math	something	both	faith
	ð	brother	though	Southern	together
	dʒ	juice	joke	orange	bridge
	ʃ	celebration	patience	sure	push

Which of these words do you think is part of culture?

Practice the Tongue Twister.

**You know New York,  
you need New York,  
you know you need  
unique New York**



**The End**