

UNIT 1

Greetings Around the World





Handshakes, Kisses, Tongues, and Other Greetings



- Have you ever made any friends from other countries?
- What are some of the different ways people in other countries greet each other?
- How would you feel if someone kissed you on the cheek when you first met? What if the person showed you his or her tongue?





wave

READING PASSAGE



One **custom**¹ that gives insight into people's history and values is the way ¹ they greet one another. There is a wide **range**² of greetings around the world. These range from the common handshake to other strange **rituals**³ found in some countries. Let's **take a look at** how the simple action of **greeting**⁴ someone differs greatly from place to place.

5

Vocabulary & Phrases

- 1 **custom** (n) a way of behaving that is commonly used by people in a certain place
The Japanese have the custom of bowing to people when they meet.
- 2 **range** (n) to change from one thing to another within a certain limit
The prices of computers at this store range from NT\$15,000 to NT\$75,000.
- 3 **ritual** (n) a specific set of actions performed for a particular reason
I don't understand the rituals I saw the people perform.
- 4 **greet** (v) to say hello or welcome someone in a friendly way
The two men smiled when they greeted each other on the street.

★ { **take a look at** : to examine or observe }
The doctor took a look at the man's injury.



bow



- 6 In the United States and Canada, for example, a simple **handshake**⁵ or **nod**⁶ is the norm. The handshake has an interesting origin: it started long ago as a way of showing people that you weren't carrying a weapon. Shaking the person's right hand while looking him or her in the eye is the usual method.
- 10 Handshakes are also common in other parts of the world, including Britain and Russia. In Russia, males **grasp**⁷ other men's hands very strongly during the handshake. Handshakes are also how most people in New Zealand greet each other. However, the native Maori people of that country display more physical **contact**⁸: they press their noses together in a sign of trust and **closeness**⁹.

5 **handshake** (n) the grasping of two hands by people who greet each other
Mr. Johnson has a very strong handshake.

6 **nod** (n) an up and down movement of the head
Tom greeted Bob with a nod.

7 **grasp** (v) to hold something with your hand(s) firmly
The boy grasped his toy strongly so nobody could take it from him.

8 **contact** (n) touching
The shy girl didn't like contact of any kind.

9 **closeness** (n) having a strong friendship or even deeper relationship
Their closeness was easy for everyone to see.

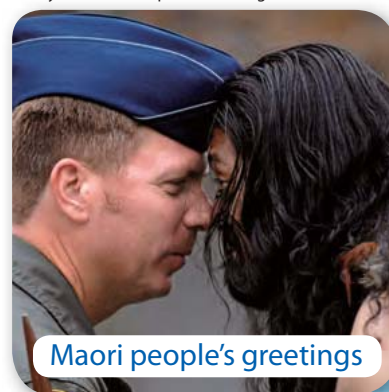


handshake



grasp

C.C. by U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo



Maori people's greetings

In other countries, such as France and Belgium, hugging and kissing are more common when two people meet. In those cultures, people kiss each other on the cheeks. The number of times varies **depending on** the particular country. In Saudi Arabia, men might **hug**¹⁰ and **kiss**¹¹ each other (but not a woman) on the cheek. Men will also shake hands with other men there. In some Eastern countries, including Korea and Japan, bowing is the traditional greeting. In Japan, **the deeper** the **bow**¹², **the deeper** the respect shown. The strangest custom, though, is likely in Tibet. People there opt to **stick out** their tongue to greet others.

10 hug (v) to put your arms around someone in a sign of friendship or love
The woman hugged her boyfriend tightly after he gave her a gift.

11 kiss (v) to touch with your lips to show friendship, love or to greet someone
The two women kissed each other on the cheek.

12 bow (n) to bend your body forward in a greeting or sign of respect
The American was unsure if he should greet his Japanese friends with a bow or handshake.

★ { **depend on** : to be changed or affected by something else }
His mood often depends on the weather.

★ { **the deeper . . . the deeper . . .** : the stronger or larger, the greater the effect }
The deeper the cut, the deeper the pain and bleeding.

★ { **stick out** : to push something forward and away from yourself }
Jim stuck out his arm to touch his friend on the shoulder.



Reading Comprehension

- () ① What is this reading mainly about?
- A. The importance of handshakes all around the world.
 - B. The origins and histories of various greetings.
 - C. The strangest types of greetings on Earth.
 - D. The wide range of greeting customs in the world.
- () ② Which of the following is true?
- A. People in Russia, but not England, shake hands.
 - B. The number of times people kiss on the cheek varies.
 - C. In the past, people nodded if they weren't carrying a weapon.
 - D. You shouldn't look at people when shaking their hands in the United States.
- () ③ How do most people in New Zealand greet each other?
- A. With a handshake.
 - B. By pressing noses together.
 - C. With a kiss on the cheek.
 - D. By sticking out their tongues.
- () ④ Which type of country is NOT mentioned in the reading?
- A. A North American country.
 - B. A European country.
 - C. A South American country.
 - D. An Asian country.
- () ⑤ What can be inferred about greeting customs in Saudi Arabia?
- A. Men shake hands with women when meeting them for the first time.
 - B. It's not proper for men to kiss women when they meet.
 - C. Women do not kiss other women when they meet.
 - D. Women can kiss men, but men can't kiss women when they meet.



Exercises

UNIT
1

Greetings Around the World

I. VOCABULARY

Choose the correct answers. In questions 1 to 5, choose a synonym of the underlined word(s).

- () 1 John greeted his friend with a warm smile and firm handshake.
A. demonstrated B. presented C. welcomed D. offered
- () 2 The old man grasped his young grandson's hand tightly so he couldn't run onto the road.
A. touched B. held C. observed D. kissed
- () 3 Robert took a look at the car he wanted to buy.
A. examined B. considered C. ignored D. stole
- () 4 I'm interested in learning more about the customs of other countries.
A. attractions B. language C. traditions D. people
- () 5 Remember, when you meet Mr. Robinson, he doesn't like any physical contact.
A. gossip B. touching C. greeting D. discussion
- () 6 A _____ can be used to greet someone or to show agreement.
A. hug B. nod C. kiss D. custom
- () 7 Jim _____ his hand towards the woman, but she refused to shake it.
A. depended on B. turned down C. held on D. stuck out
- () 8 Ken hurt his back after his deep _____ to the foreign visitor.
A. bow B. shake C. contact D. effect
- () 9 The styles in this store _____ from old-fashioned to modern.
A. price B. accept C. range D. come
- () 10 Getting down on your knees is a _____ to honor the dead in this country.
A. closeness B. range C. suggestion D. ritual

II. CLOZE TEST

A. Fill in the Blanks

cheek

• customs

• stick out

• greeting

• range of

When traveling to another country, you should learn a bit about its
① _____ before you go there. This includes getting to know the proper
form of ② _____ people, which can differ a lot. If you go to a European
country, don't be surprised if someone kisses you on the ③ _____.
In China, for example, people might applaud when a visitor is introduced. Finally,
if you travel to Tibet, people may ④ _____ their tongues to greet you!
Indeed, there is a wide ⑤ _____ greetings around the world.

B. Multiple-choice Questions

When discussing various greetings, it's interesting ⑥ take a look at Africa.
In many African countries, it is common for people to touch hands. However, that
doesn't mean a handshake is commonly used. ⑦ instance, in Zambia, people gently
squeeze each other's thumbs when ⑧. In the northern part of Mozambique,
people might ⑨ their hands three times and say hello. And ⑩ the Central
African Republic, if people see a good friend, they slap their right hands together
and grasp each other's middle finger.

- | | | | | |
|-------|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| () ⑥ | A. for | B. off | C. to | D. in |
| () ⑦ | A. For | B. Of | C. To | D. On |
| () ⑧ | A. greet | B. greets | C. to greet | D. greeting |
| () ⑨ | A. clap | B. clop | C. chop | D. clam |
| () ⑩ | A. on | B. in | C. at | D. from |



CONVERSATION



Rhonda is visiting her friend, Gordon, who lives in Belgium. Earlier, Gordon introduced Rhonda to a friend of his.

Rhonda I'm pretty upset! I can't believe what just happened.

Gordon Are you mad because that guy just kissed you on the cheek?

Rhonda Yes! He kissed me not just once, but three times. And this is the first time I've met him.

Gordon Relax, Rhonda, this is Belgium. It's customary for people to do that here.



Rhonda I didn't know that. I'm not used to that much physical contact when meeting people.

Gordon I know. In the United States, people usually just shake hands or nod to each other, right?

Rhonda Usually, yes. People sometimes do hug or kiss once on the cheek. However, they only do that if they are good friends.





Practice



() ① **Fred** : How was your trip to Japan?

Teresa : It was good, thanks. I had a bit of trouble with the bowing, though.

Fred : _____

Teresa : Well, I was never sure how deeply I should bow to other people.

- A. Japanese people often bow as a form of greeting.
- B. I'm good at bowing, too.
- C. What was the problem you had?
- D. Let me give you some advice about that.

() ② **Erin** : I'm going to Saudi Arabia. Do you know much about their customs?

Justin : I know that men sometimes kiss each other.

Erin : What about women? _____

Justin : No, men don't greet women with a kiss there.

- A. Will someone I don't know try to kiss me, too?
- B. Do women kiss one another as well?
- C. Is it customary to shake hands?
- D. Do many women visit Saudi Arabia?

() ③ **Jasper** : _____

Kendra : No, only certain people do that there. I believe the Maori people do that.

Jasper : Oh, thanks for telling me. I wouldn't want to do something embarrassing.

- A. Do you know anything about greeting customs in New Zealand?
- B. I was confused when someone in New Zealand pressed my nose.
- C. Do you know of any unusual greeting customs around the world?
- D. Is it customary for all New Zealanders to press noses together in greeting?

() 4 **Yolanda** : I'm writing an essay about greetings around the world.

Aaron : _____

Yolanda : They certainly do. There is such a wide range of customs.

- A. That sounds like an interesting topic all right.
- B. What a difficult topic for an essay!
- C. They really differ from country to country.
- D. Cultures can be very different from each other.

() 5 **Clark** : I can't wait until I go on my trip to Tibet!

Patty : Don't be mad if people stick out their tongue when they meet you.

Clark : _____

Patty : I'm not really sure, but it's a very old tradition.

- A. Isn't that a strange custom?
- B. Have you ever been to Tibet before?
- C. Why do they show their tongues?
- D. Are you sure they stick out their tongues?



Guided Translation



1 世界各地打招呼的方式差異性很大。

There is a wide _____ greetings around the world.

2 打招呼的方式從一般的握手，到某些國家的奇特儀式都有。

Greetings range _____ the common handshake _____ other strange rituals found _____ some countries.

3 然而，紐西蘭原住民毛利人見面時有較多的肢體接觸，他們彼此互碰鼻子，表示信任與親密感。

However, the native Maori people in New Zealand display more physical contact: they _____ their noses together _____ a sign of trust and _____.

4 在其他國家，如法國和比利時，兩人見面時擁抱與親吻較為普遍。

In other countries, such _____ France and Belgium, _____ and kissing are more common when two people meet.

5 在日本，鞠躬時腰彎得越低，表示越尊重對方。

In Japan, the _____ the bow, the deeper the _____ shown.