



# Cultural Etiquette and Taboos

# Etiquette

Etiquette means the rules you need to follow when you are with other people.

However, it is different from country to country.

# Taboo

Taboo means something you cannot do.

It is also different from country to country.

Today, we are going to talk about the differences in etiquette and taboos.

polite 有禮貌的

rude 無禮的

bow 鞠躬

cheek 臉頰

palm 手掌

common 普遍的

stick 伸出

evil 邪惡

Hi ~ ♥



# Greetings

It is always polite to exchange greetings when you meet someone.

# How can we say hello in ...

We say **hello** in English.

We say \_\_\_\_\_ in Chinese.

We say \_\_\_\_\_ in Japanese.

We say \_\_\_\_\_ in Spanish.

We say \_\_\_\_\_ in German.

We say \_\_\_\_\_ in Italian.



Can we say hello  
without using any words?

Not only the spoken  
language, but body  
language is different in  
different countries.



In Japan



People **bow** when they meet each other.



In Thailand

Sawatdee-krap



People bow slightly  
with the **palms** pressed together.

In Italy



Italians greet friends with two  
light kisses on each **cheek**.

In Hawaii

Aloha



The "shaka sign" is a **common** greeting in Hawaii.

In New Zealand

Maori



Maori people press their noses together when they greet each other.

In Tibet



People **stick** their tongue out at someone.

It shows you have no **evil** thoughts.

# Game : Rock the Beat

## Rules

- Follow the picture on the screen and do the action.
- You need to follow the tempo.
- The group that has no mistake wins.

Hi ~ ♥



# Gesture

To tell something without words.

This gesture means “okay.”



In the UK

the USA

Australia

But it is rude in Brazil.



**This gesture means number 2 in  
Germany.**



**But**

**In China**

**It means 8.**

**What does it mean in  
Taiwan?**

This gesture means “come here”.



In the UK

the USA

Australia

**But** it is quite rude in the Philippines.

V-sign is really rude.



In the UK

Australia

New Zealand

What does it mean in your country?

This gesture means “rock on.”



In the USA

But

In Spain, it tells a man that his wife is cheating on him.

To cross one's fingers is to wish for good luck.



In the UK

the USA

Australia

But it is rude in Vietnam.

Hi ~ ♥



# Taboo

Oh my god! Do not do that in my country.

# Think and Guess

Here are some taboos in different countries.

Have you heard any of them?

Discuss in groups and choose a country.

Do not pass your food from chopsticks to chopsticks.



- a. In the UK
- b. In Russia
- c. In Japan
- d. In France



Do not pass your food from chopsticks to chopsticks.



- a. In the UK
- b. In Russia
- c. In Japan
- d. In France

Do not give clocks and shoes as gifts.



- a. In China
- b. In the USA
- c. In France
- d. In Australia

Do not give clocks and shoes as gifts.



- a. In China
- b. In the USA
- c. In France
- d. In Australia

Do not touch anyone's head.



- a. In the USA
- b. In Thailand
- c. In France
- d. In the UK

Do not touch anyone's head.



- a. In the USA
- b. **In Thailand**
- c. In France
- d. In the UK

Do not chew gum in public.



- a. In Australia
- b. In Spain
- c. In Singapore
- d. In China

Do not chew gum in public.



- a. In Australia
- b. In Spain
- c. **In Singapore**
- d. In China

Do not show the v-sign to others.



- a. In Brazil
- b. In Taiwan
- c. In the UK
- d. In Turkey



Do not show the v-sign to others.



- a. In Brazil
- b. In Taiwan
- c. In the UK
- d. In Turkey

People are not allowed to eat pork.



- a. In Italy
- b. In Japan
- c. In the UK
- d. In Turkey

People are not allowed to eat pork.



- a. In Italy
- b. In Japan
- c. In the UK
- d. In Turkey

It is rude to show the ok sign.



- a. In Brazil
- b. In Taiwan
- c. In Russia
- d. In Turkey

It is rude to show the ok sign.



- a. In Brazil
- b. In Taiwan
- c. In Russia
- d. In Turkey

# What did we learn today?

Manners in each country are so different. Next time, if you want to go abroad, you should check the etiquette and the taboos in the country before you go there.

