

Cultures and Customs | Preview

 Level: Intermediate

Lesson Objective: To explore cultural practices and traditions, learn essential vocabulary for discussing diversity, and build skills for respectful and professional cross-cultural communication.

Word	Meaning
Diversity	The state of being diverse, with differences in race, ethnicity, gender, and more.
Tradition	A custom or belief passed down from generation to generation.
Ceremony	A formal event or ritual, often with specific customs and traditions.
Etiquette	The customary code of polite behavior in society or a particular group.
Festival	A celebration or series of events, often religious or cultural.
Customary	In accordance with custom; usual.
Cultural Heritage	The inherited customs, beliefs, and traditions of a culture.
Tolerance	The acceptance of different opinions, beliefs, or customs.
Globalization	The process of interaction and integration among people, companies, and governments from different nations.
Stereotype	An oversimplified image or idea of a group of people.
Integration	The action or process of integrating different groups of people.
Ritual	A religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions.
Cultural Exchange	The exchange of cultural elements between groups or societies.
Multiculturalism	The presence or support of several distinct cultural or ethnic groups within a society.
Global Citizen	An individual who sees themselves as part of a world community rather than just their nation.

- ◆ How would you define culture?
- ◆ Can you share a unique custom or tradition from your own culture or background?
- ◆ Why do you think it's important to learn about and respect different cultures?

Diversity

- ◆ How can a community benefit from embracing diversity?
- ◆ What challenges might arise in a community that lacks diversity?
- ◆ Can you think of ways to promote diversity in your everyday life?

Sub Vocabulary: cultural differences, diverse friends, open-minded

Tradition

- ◆ Why do you think traditions are important in preserving a culture?
- ◆ How do traditions contribute to a sense of community?
- ◆ Can you share a personal tradition that has significance to you?

Sub Vocabulary: custom, practice, sentimental value, identity

Ceremony

- ◆ What types of ceremonies are common in your culture?
- ◆ How do ceremonies mark significant life events?
- ◆ Have you ever participated in a ceremony from a different culture?

Sub Vocabulary: religious, wedding, graduation, different culture, event, ritual

Etiquette

- ◆ Why is etiquette important in different social settings?
- ◆ How does etiquette vary across different cultures?
- ◆ Can you share a cultural etiquette rule that you find interesting?

Sub Vocabulary: polite behavior, expectation, respect

Festival

- ◆ What festivals are celebrated in your culture?
- ◆ How do festivals bring people together?
- ◆ Have you ever participated in a festival from another culture?

Sub Vocabulary: celebrations, harvest, national, social connections

Customary

- ◆ What are some customary greetings in your culture?
- ◆ How do customary practices vary from region to region?
- ◆ Can you think of a customary gift-giving practice?

Sub Vocabulary: habits, traditions, gift-giving, common, expected behavior

Cultural Heritage

- ◆ Why is it essential to preserve cultural heritage?
- ◆ How does cultural heritage shape an individual's identity?
- ◆ Can you share an aspect of your cultural heritage that you're proud of?

Sub Vocabulary: values, beliefs, practices, behaviors, identity, custom, belief

Tolerance

- ◆ Why is tolerance crucial in a diverse society?
- ◆ How can individuals promote tolerance in their communities?
- ◆ Can you share a personal experience that taught you the importance of tolerance?

Sub Vocabulary: understanding, harmony, peaceful coexistence, increased understanding, anecdote

Globalization

- ◆ How has globalization influenced your culture?
- ◆ What are the positive and negative aspects of globalization on cultures?
- ◆ Can you think of a cultural product or practice that has gained popularity globally?

Sub Vocabulary: interconnectivity, cultural exchange, gained popularity

Stereotype

- ◆ How do stereotypes affect our understanding of different cultures?
- ◆ Can you share an example of a cultural stereotype that you find inaccurate?
- ◆ How can individuals challenge and overcome cultural stereotypes?

Sub Vocabulary: bias, misunderstandings, prejudice, perpetuate, empathy

Integration

- ◆ How does cultural integration contribute to social harmony?
- ◆ Can you share a positive example of cultural integration in your community?
- ◆ What challenges might arise during the process of cultural integration?

Sub Vocabulary: understanding, cooperation, sense of belonging, language barriers

Ritual

- ◆ How do rituals contribute to the spiritual aspect of a culture?
- ◆ Can you share a ritual from your culture that has personal significance?
- ◆ How have modern lifestyles impacted traditional rituals?

Sub Vocabulary: social dynamics, technology, priorities, participation

Cultural Exchange

- ◆ How does cultural exchange promote understanding between people?
- ◆ Can you share a personal experience of cultural exchange?
- ◆ Why is cultural exchange important in today's interconnected world?

Sub Vocabulary: stereotypes, interact, global understanding, respect, international cooperation

Multiculturalism

- ◆ How does multiculturalism enrich a society?
- ◆ Can you think of any challenges associated with multiculturalism?
- ◆ What role does education play in promoting multiculturalism?

Sub Vocabulary: understanding, respect, celebrating diversity

Global Citizen

- ◆ What does it mean to be a global citizen?
- ◆ How can individuals embrace the concept of global citizenship?
- ◆ Can you share an example of someone you consider a global citizen?

Sub Vocabulary: global issues, contributing, well-being, perspectives

Sub-vocabulary Preview

Diversity

cultural differences – differences between people's backgrounds and practices

diverse friends – having friends from many different groups

open-minded – willing to accept new ideas and cultures

Tradition

custom – a usual way of doing something in a culture

practice – something done regularly in a culture

sentimental value – personal emotional meaning

identity – sense of who someone is based on culture

Etiquette

polite behavior – showing respect and consideration

expectation – what is socially expected

respect – treating others politely and kindly

Festival

celebrations – special events of joy

harvest – festival related to crops

national – connected to a nation's identity

social connections – ways people come together

Customary

habits – usual ways of doing things

traditions – practices passed through generations

gift-giving – giving presents as part of culture

common – usual or typical

expected behavior – actions considered normal in culture

Cultural Heritage

values – beliefs or principles of a culture

beliefs – ideas accepted as true

practices – cultural activities

behaviors – ways people act

identity – sense of who someone is

custom – common cultural practice

belief – faith or tradition in a culture

Tolerance

understanding – accepting differences

harmony – peaceful living together

peaceful coexistence – different groups living together peacefully

increased understanding – greater knowledge of others

anecdote – short personal story

Globalization

interconnectivity – connection between people and nations

cultural exchange – sharing of culture between countries

gained popularity – something becoming well known globally

Stereotype

bias – preference or prejudice

misunderstandings – failure to understand correctly

prejudice – unfair negative opinion

perpetuate – continue or maintain an idea

empathy – understanding others' feelings

Integration

understanding – knowing and respecting others

cooperation – working together

sense of belonging – feeling accepted in a group

language barriers – difficulty communicating due to different languages

Ritual

social dynamics – social interactions and changes

technology – tools and innovations

priorities – things considered important

participation – involvement in activities

Cultural Exchange

stereotypes – fixed ideas about people

interact – communicate with others

global understanding – knowing about cultures worldwide

respect – valuing others' differences

international cooperation – countries working together

Multiculturalism

understanding – awareness of differences

respect – valuing diversity

celebrating diversity – honoring differences among people

Global Citizen

global issues – problems affecting the world

contributing – helping or giving to society

well-being – health and happiness

perspectives – different points of view

Note: This material is intended to be a study guide, outlining the content of the lesson.
