

# Talking past each other

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**This task is about getting information from short notes about different cultures.**

Use the information below to answer the questions.  
Write the name of the correct country in each box.

## Being welcomed into the home

When people move to New Zealand they bring many of the customs of their homeland. When visiting a home it is wise to follow the lead of the hosts so that you don't offend anyone. Below is a short list of some of the customs that you might encounter when visiting someone from a different part of the world.

### Korean

- A guest usually stops at the gate or door and calls out 'Gyesyo' or 'Gyeshimnikka' (Is anyone at home?).
- It is usual to bow to each other and say something like 'Annyonghaseyo' (How are you?).
- Visitors and family remove shoes before following the host into the house.

### Malaysian

- A guest is likely to be greeted with 'Selamat Datang' Welcome to our home).
- Shoes are removed before entering.
- Food and drinks will usually be offered and it is polite to accept.
- Formal use of 'Mr' and 'Mrs' for introductions depends on the age and status of the person.

### Tongan

- Remove shoes before entering.
- It is customary to sit on the floor but chairs are provided in New Zealand.
- A typical greeting is 'Malo e lelei' (Good morning).
- Refreshments may be offered and it is polite to accept.
- A Tongan person does not always make eye contact when talking.

### Cook Island

- Visitors are greeted at the door with 'Kia orana' (Hello). The reply

### Chinese

- Physical contact is not usually made between older Chinese

### Japanese

- A visitor is usually greeted with the words 'Dozo agatte kudasai'

is the same.

- Shoes should be removed before entering.
- Greetings are accompanied by a handshake for men or a kiss and warm embrace between a man and woman or two women.
- Seats are provided but relatives may sit on the floor.
- First names are usually used but respect is often shown to elderly people by addressing them as 'Mr' or 'Mrs'.
- Refreshments will be offered and it is polite to accept.

when greeting. Younger Chinese use the western handshake.

- Usually the head of a family or an older person is greeted first.

(Please come up).

- Take your shoes off before entering and place them facing away from the house.
- It usual to bow on being greeted.
- Usually you will be shown to a room where you kneel around a table and tea is served.
- Formal introductions are usually made.

a) In which cultures do people greet each other with a bow?

1.
2.

b) In which cultures is it a custom to sit or kneel on the floor?

1.
2.
3.

c) In which cultures may refreshments be offered?

1.
2.
3.
4.

d) In which cultures are formal introductions used for elderly or important people?

1.

2.

e) In which culture can visitors leave their shoes on when entering the house?

f) Why would information about being welcomed into the home be useful for New Zealanders?

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