



## UNIT 8: ACROSS CULTURES

### SPEAKING

#### LEARNING CONTEXT

During your English class you discussed different gestures and signs people make in other parts of the world in order to match them with cultural behaviours in your country.

Language function:	Structure:	Vocabulary:
asking for information and giving information	-Do you know if... -Would you mind ... -Can you tell me ... -Could you tell ...	nod –clap-point-blow-blush-fold-shake-yawn frown-hug-fold-wave-shake

#### Vocabulary input

**-clap:** applaud; bang

**-nod:** make a head movement to say if you agree or not.

**-yawn:** bailler

**Example:** I often yawn when I am tired.

**-frown:** make a facial expression to say you are not happy.

**-point at something/somebody:** show with the finger where something or somebody is, indicate.

**-blow:** souffler

**-blush:** become red n the face

**-fold:** cross

**-shake hands:** greet people making hand contact.

**-wave:** move the open hand to greet or to say goodbye

#### Language function: Asking for information and giving information.

1-**Could you tell me** when the next train leaves?

2-**Do you know** how much that vase coast?

3-**I'd like to know** what you think about the new project?

4-**Can you tell me** what time it is?

5-**Would you mind** shutting your mouth?

#### Activity I (Vocabulary):

**A-Match the verbs in column A with the phrases in column B to form correct expressions. Report your answers like in number 1.**

Column A	Column B	Answers
1-Blush	a-at someone	<b>1- h. Blush with embarrassment (example)</b>
2-Fold	b-in disapproval	2-
3-Frown	c-your nose	3-
4-Yawn	d-your friend affectionately	4-

5-Hug	e-to someone across the street	5-
6-Nod	f-hands with someone	6-
7-Blow	g-from boredom	7-
8-Wave	<b>h-with embarrassment</b>	8-
9-Clap	i-your arms	9-
10-Shake	j-in agreement	10-
	k-your hands	

**B-Complete the sentences with the suitable words from the box. Write your answers like in the example. Example: 1-nodded**

**shake - yawning - waving - blushed - nodded - hugged - point - frowning**

- 1-She.....in agreement from time to time.
- 2-Americans don't often .....hands.
- 3-They took us to the station and stood on the platform .....goodbye.
- 4After working for hours on his computer, Dad was tired and started .....
- 5-My parents .....me when I arrived home after a year away.
- 6-She .....with embarrassment when I mentioned the incident.
- 7-What's the problem? Why are you.....?
- 8-It's rude to .....your finger at someone.

### **Activity II: Language function**

**Complete the dialogues with the phrases in the box. Write your answers like in number 1.**

**Number 1-Could you tell**

**Do you know if    I would like to know    Can you tell me    Would you mind    Could you tell**

- 1- A-Excuse me. (1)..... me where the bus station is, please?  
 B-Yes. It's on the other side of the town. It's quite a long walk.  
 A-I see. (2).....there are any taxis nearby?  
 B-Yes. There are taxis outside the market.  
 A-Thank you.
- 2-A- (3) .....telling me why you're so late?  
 B-I had to take my little sister to school.  
 A-I see. Well, don't let it happen again.
- 3-A-May I see your passport and immigration card, please?  
 B-Yes, certainly.  
 A-Thank you. (4).....the name of your hotel?  
 B-It's the Novatel.  
 A-OK, thank you. Enjoy your stay.

## **COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY**

**A VOA (Voice Of America) journalist is interviewing you about some body languages and their meanings in your tradition. Answer his questions.**

- What body languages are most commonly used in your tradition, and what do they mean?
- Which body languages must a person avoid making in front of important or older people? Why?
- Give examples of sanctions a person is exposed to in case of wrong body language.

**Homework:** Choose the best options to answer the questions

1. How do Americans greet each other the first time they meet? They.....  
A-shake hands    B-just say hello    C-nod their heads
2. How does a Middle Eastern person feel if someone points at him/her?  
A-flattered    B-insulted    C-threatened
3. What is the usual form of greeting in Japan?  
A-to bow    B-to wave one's arm    C-to hug the other person
4. Which hand should you not use to take or pass things (food for example) in some countries?  
A-the right hand    B-both hands    C-the left hand
5. How far apart would two Americans normally stand when they are chatting?  
A-two metres    B-over a metre    C-50 centimetres