

## 9D – Preview Answers



### Multiple choice

Select the correct word(s) to fill in the blanks.

1. People usually shake hands in \_\_\_\_\_ when meeting for the first time.  
a. the U.S.A                      b. England                      c. *most western countries*
2. It is rude not to greet shop staff in \_\_\_\_\_  
a. Japan                      b. *France*                      c. U.S.A
3. It is rude to look a person of the opposite sex in the eye for more than a few seconds in \_\_\_\_\_  
a. China                      b. *Muslim countries*                      c. Germany
4. In America, it might be considered rude or strange if you \_\_\_\_\_  
a. don't make eye contact with your boss.    b. arrive a little late for a party.  
c. *start a conversation with a stranger*
5. In \_\_\_\_\_, pressing your nose against someone else's is a traditional greeting.  
a. *New Zealand*                      b. Australia                      c. France
6. In \_\_\_\_\_, it is rude to point out someone's mistake as they will lose face.  
a. Italy                      b. Russia                      c. *China*
7. In \_\_\_\_\_, it is often acceptable to address your boss by his first name.  
a. *the U.S.A.*                      b. Russia                      c. Japan.



### What do you think?    *Answers will vary*

Americans shake hands, Asian people bow, Europeans kiss each other on the cheek, some men hug each other. How many ways do you know to greet someone? How many have you experienced? Do you have any funny stories about that?

*I can say "hello" in many different languages but I usually save body language greetings, such as hugging, for close friends or family. I often wave to acquaintances in an informal situation. On formal occasions I stick with words and a smile, unless I am meeting someone for the first time, in which case I shake hands.*

*Have you met many people from other countries? Where were they from? How did they behave differently from people in your country?*

*I studied abroad in America in college. There were many people from different countries in my program, and I found there were many cultural differences between Japan and other countries. The most important one was how people will speak directly about their feelings to their co-workers and managers, which is the opposite of how we do it in Japan.*

*Which custom do you think is the most important in your country?*

*In Japan, we try to be very polite to everyone we meet, and often try to think of other people's needs and wants before we think of our own. While many kind people in Western countries do the same thing, it is not as common. It allows people in Japan to live in a very small country without many problems.*