

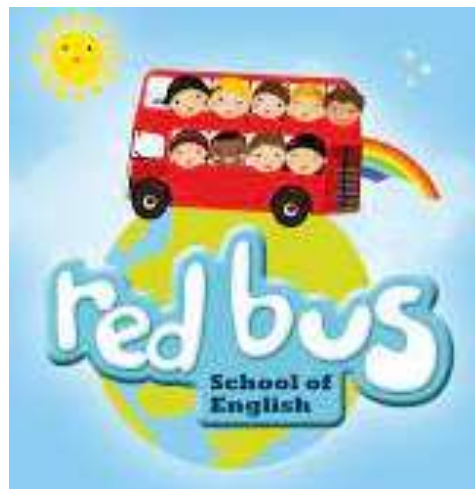
There's more to it than Red Buses and Five o'clock Tea

Language and Culture
Investigated

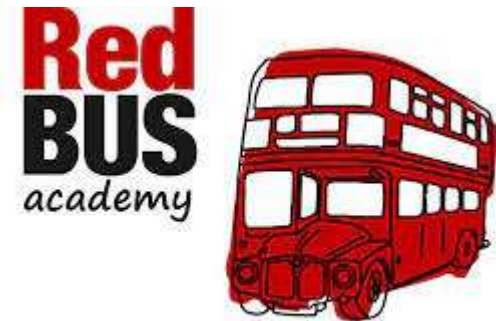
Rob Dean

March 2022





The Little Red Bus
English School



RED BUS
ENGLISH



What is culture?

The customs, beliefs, art, music, literature and all the other products of human thought made by a particular group of people at a particular time.

(Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture, pg 336)

The importance of culture

Whose culture?

Places, people and customs

Culture and language

Culture and eating habits

Successful cross-cultural communication?



Why is culture important?

Language and Culture sometimes cannot be separated.

‘Cappuccino’ and ‘Meze’ have no translations...

A cappuccino (ⁱ/ˈkæpəˈtʃiːnoʊ/; Italian pronunciation: [kapputˈtʃiːno]) is an Italian coffee drink that is

Cappuccino



Meze

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"Mezze" redirects here. For the suburb of Damascus, see Mezzeh.

This article is about the selection of dishes. For the canton in France, see Canton of Meze. For the commune within the aforementioned canton, see Mèze.

This article is about the selection of dishes. For the Romanian audio electronics company, see Meze Audio.

Mazze, **Meze**, **Mezze**, or **Mazza** (ⁱ/mɪˈzɛz/; Persian: مزه‎ *mazze* or *mazzeh*, meaning "taste") is a selection of small dishes served as appetizers in much of West Asia and the Balkans. In predominantly Muslim regions where alcohol is less common, Meze is often served as a part of multi-course meals, while in Illyria, Lebanon, Greece, Turkey, Caucasus and the Balkans, they function more as snacks while drinking or talking.^[a]

Contents

- Etymology
- Common dishes
- Alcoholic accompaniment
- Serving traditions
- See also
- References
- Bibliography
- External links

Etymology

The word is found in all the cuisines of the former Ottoman Empire, and originated from the Turkish word meaning a snack or appetiser. This, in turn, originated from the Persian word "Mazze" or "Mazzeh" (ⁱ/mɪˈzɛz/), which means "taste" or "tasty".^[1]

Common dishes



This section **needs additional citations for verification**. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (July 2021) (Learn how and when to remove this template message)

In Turkey, meze often consist of *beyaz peynir* (literally "white cheese"), *salav* (sliced ripe *menemen*),^[2] *acı ezme* (hot pepper paste often with walnuts), *haydari* (thick strained yogurt with herbs), *patlıcan salatası* (cold eggplant salad), *beyin salatası* (brain salad), *Aslanlar tava* (fried calamari or squid), *midye dolma* and *midye tava* (stuffed or fried mussels), *enginar* (artichokes), *cacik* (yogurt with cucumber and garlic), *plaki* (foods cooked in a special sauce), *doma* or *sarma* (rice-stuffed vine leaves or other stuffed vegetables, such as bell peppers), *Amasur efen* (a liver dish, served cold), octopus salad, and *piş köfte* (raw meatballs with bulgur).

In Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria and the rest of the Balkans, *meze*, *mezis*, or *mezhdries* (plural) are small dishes, hot or cold, spicy or savory. Seafood dishes such as grilled octopus may be included, along with salads, sliced hard-boiled eggs, garlic bread, *kalamata olives*, fava beans, fried vegetables, *meltzanosalata* (eggplant salad), *taranosalata*, fried or grilled cheeses called *saganaki*, and sheep, goat, or cow cheeses.

Popular meze dishes include the following

Meze



A large meze platter in Petra, Jordan.

Variations

Numerous

Cookbook: Meze

Media: Meze



Different Meze plates from Turkey.

Why is culture important?

Language and Culture sometimes cannot be separated.

It helps us to communicate with people from other countries on holiday or for business.

2019: Some Global Statistics...

Number of people who took a foreign holiday

a. 1 Trillion

Global revenue from tourism in USD

b. 4.3 million

Number of people using English for travel and tourism

c. 1 billion

d. 1.1 billion

Source: data.**world**bank.org/indicator/ST.INT.ARVL



**Number of people using
English for travel and
tourism**

1.1 billion

Why is culture important?

Language and Culture sometimes cannot be separated.

It helps us to communicate with people from other countries on holiday or for business.

To avoid stereotyping.



Welcome to Poland!



Welcome to Poland!





Whose Culture Shall we Study?

**The students
themselves**

**English Speaking
Countries**

Culture of...

The wider world

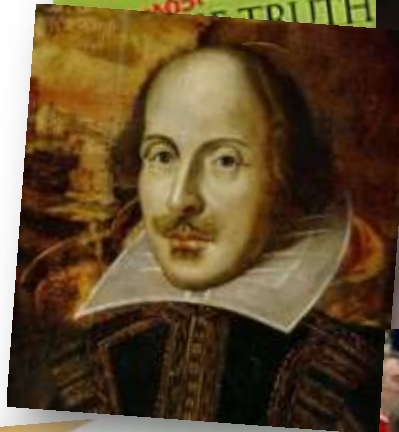
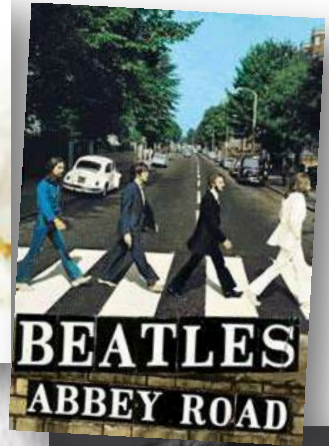
The teacher

What is British Culture?



Welcome to Britain!

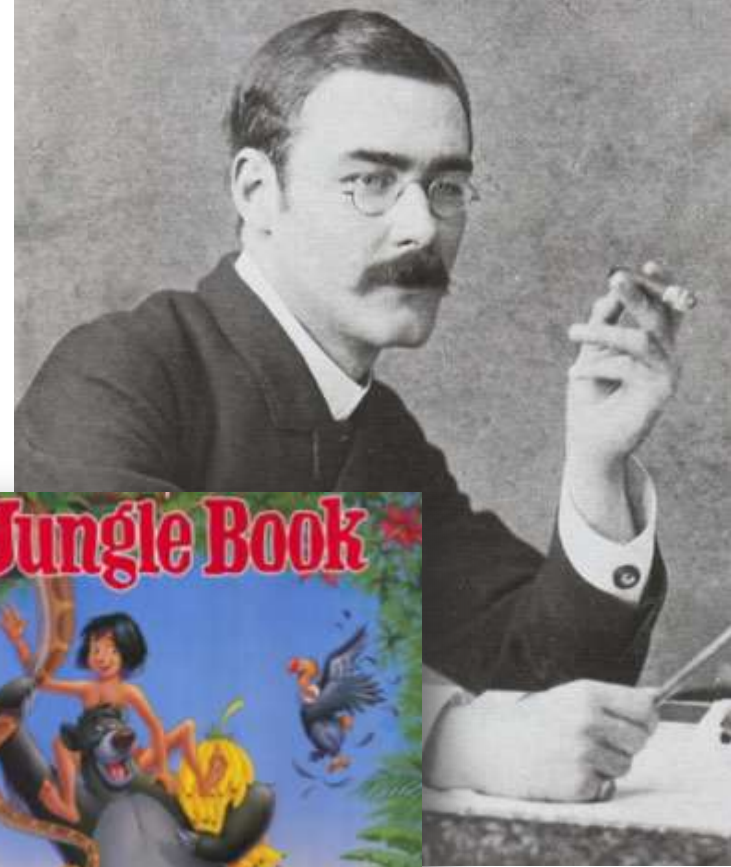
British Culture?



Another reason why culture is important:

**It helps us to better
understand our own
culture.**

***“You cannot understand
your own culture if that is
the only culture you know.”***



Rudyard Kipling, writer 1865-1936



**People, Places and
Customs:
Every journey starts
from home...**



Food



School



Free Time



Toys



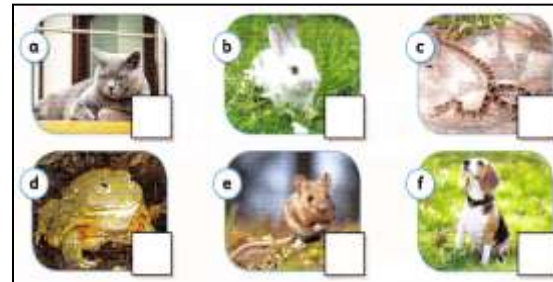
Weather



Home



Family, friends



Animals

**Every journey
starts from
home**

Every journey starts from home...



York Our Discovery Island 1

Different homes

CULTURE

22 Read and match.



1

My name's Ella. I live in a small house. There's a kitchen, a living room, a bathroom and two bedrooms. I've got a big garden.



a



b



3

My name's Rosie. I live in a caravan! It's small but it's nice. There's a living room, a kitchen and a bathroom.



2

My name's Ravi. I live on a houseboat. It's a big boat. There's a living room and two bedrooms. My favourite room is the living room.



c



d



4

My name's Juan. I live in a big flat. There's a kitchen, a living room, two bathrooms and four bedrooms. I've got a TV in my bedroom.

23 What about you? Ask and answer.

Where do you live?

Do you live in a house?

What's your favourite room?

Have you got a TV in your bedroom?





Food



School



Free Time



Toys



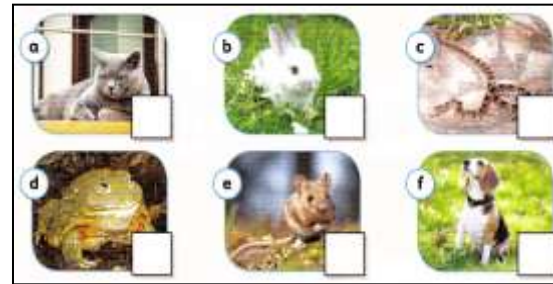
Weather



Home



Family, friends



Animals

**Every journey
starts from
home**

School in Lebanon vs. A School in the UK



**Similarities and
Differences?**

Schools Around the World

- 2** How much do you know about schools around the world?
Work in pairs. Read the statements in the table and guess the country.

Britain China Denmark France Jordan

	Country (my guess)	Correct answer
1 Students use their teacher's first name.		Denmark
2 Most students go to school on Saturday mornings and have Wednesday mornings or afternoons off.		France
3 Students go to school from Sunday to Thursday.		Jordan
4 Students don't have to wear a school uniform.		Denmark
5 Students stay at school until the early evening.		China

B C D F J

25 Look and read. Match the pupils with the pictures.

CULTURE

Unusual schools

1



My new school in Tokyo is great. It's international, so I have friends from forty different countries! They always speak to me in English – their English is great. I'm learning Japanese. It was difficult at first, but my friends were kind when I said the wrong words. Now it's easy.

Kai, 12, Japan

2



I love my school! I go to a special school in the mountains. Students go there to study winter sports. Every day, after studying Geography, Maths and other subjects, we do sport for three hours. We go skiing and snowboarding. Some students from our school went to the Olympics. I want to be a famous skier, too.

Abi, 14, Canada

3



I live in my school because it's a boarding school. My friends and I all live in rooms next to the school. I love living with my friends, and the teachers are all very nice. In the evening, there are a lot of activities. We can watch films or go swimming, but usually we have homework.

Matu, 12, Kenya



26 Read again and say.

- 1 Who lives in a school?
- 2 Who goes to school in Tokyo?
- 3 Who does sport for three hours a day?
- 4 Who has got friends from forty countries?

27 Ask and answer.

Would you like to go to a boarding school?

Yes, I ... / No, I ...

PORTFOLIO

Think and write.

Find out about another unusual school.

Would you like to go there?

Why/Why not? Write about it.

York Our Discovery Island 5

Project

Write about schools in another country.

Your task

- Choose a country other than your own.
- Research schools in that country. Use books, magazines or the Internet. Take notes. Try not to copy – use your own words.
- Consider the schools in your country. Think about what is similar and what is different about schools in the country that you are researching. Answer the questions.
- Share your work with the class.

Questions

- What types of school are there?
- What are the stages of schooling?
- How old are students at each stage of schooling?
- What subjects do students learn?
- What are the school rules?
- Do students wear a uniform?
- What are the school hours?
- What holidays do students have?
- Do students have exams?



Comparing Cultures



India



Brazil



Bangladesh



Argentina



Turkey



China



Japan

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... should you NOT open a present in front of the person who has given it to you?



1. India

2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh 5. Argentina

3. Japan



6. China

7. Turkey

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... is it acceptable to eat noisily?



1. India



2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh



3. Japan



5. Argentina



6. China



7. Turkey

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... should you arrive up to an hour late to event to which you have been invited?



1. India



2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh



3. Japan

5. Argentina



6. China



7. Turkey

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... should you arrive exactly on time to event to which you have been invited?



1. India



2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh



3. Japan



5. Argentina



6. China



7. Turkey

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... must you stand outside a person's house and clap your hands where there is no doorbell?



1. India



2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh



5. Argentina

3. Japan



6. China



7. Turkey

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... must women **NOT** shake hands when they meet?



1. India



2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh



5. Argentina

3. Japan



6. China



7. Turkey

Comparing Cultures Quiz

In which country...

... must you always leave some food on your plate (even if you are still hungry)?



1. India



2. Brazil



4. Bangladesh



3. Japan



5. Argentina



6. China



7. Turkey

Getting it Right...

Customs and traditions across the world

Every society and culture has its own customs and traditions. When you travel to another country, you should make sure that you know these unwritten 'rules' so that you don't offend anyone.

- 🌐 If someone gives you a present in India, you mustn't open it in front of the person who has given it to you. You must open it in private.
- 🌐 In many countries around the world, you have to take off your shoes before entering someone's home.
- 🌐 In the countryside in Brazil, many homes haven't got doorbells. So when you visit someone, you must stand outside and clap your hands. If nobody comes to open the door, you can knock on the door, but you can't go inside until it is opened.
- 🌐 In Bangladesh, women mustn't shake hands when they greet someone. Instead, they should greet others with a polite nod.
- 🌐 If you are waiting to shake the hand of the Queen of England, you have to wait until she puts out her hand first.
- 🌐 Accepting invitations can be very confusing. If you are invited to a dinner party which starts at seven o'clock, what time should you arrive? In Turkey, you should arrive exactly on time. In Argentina, you should arrive up to an hour late as arriving on time is considered impolite!
- 🌐 In the Far East, it's considered rude to tap your chopsticks against your bowl. You shouldn't point to someone while holding chopsticks, either.
- 🌐 Even if you're very hungry and you're eating a meal in China, you mustn't finish your food. It's considered rude, because it suggests that you are very hungry and that you haven't had enough to eat.
- 🌐 You are allowed to eat noodles noisily in Japan – it shows your host or hostess that you are enjoying your meal!

Getting it Right...

Doing business in China

Today, we talk to Mr Saud, a businessman based in Riyadh who often visits China. We asked him when he first started doing business with China.

5 "I've been doing business with China for many years. My first trip there was in 2004, and it was not very successful."

Why was it not successful?

10 "I worked for a small computer company in Riyadh. They sent me to China when I was still quite young. If only the company had realised that the Chinese respect age and experience more than youth!"

Did you make any mistakes on that visit?

15 "Yes! I wish I had researched Chinese culture before I visited the country. In order to be successful in China, you need to earn their respect. Chinese business people will always ask about a company's successes in the past. However, because I worked for a new company, I could not talk about its track record. We did not do any business deals on that first trip."

When did you learn how to be successful in China?

20 "I joined a larger company and they sent me on a cultural awareness course. On my next visit to China, it felt as if I hadn't known anything on my first visit!"

What advice can you give to people wanting to do business in China?

25 "Before I visit a company, I send recommendations from previous clients. I also send my business card with my job position and qualifications. I wish I had one to show you. It's written in English on one side and in Chinese on the other."

30 **Can you tell us about your last meeting in China?**

"Of course! I arrived on time. You must not arrive late, as this shows disrespect. Then, when I met the company director, I shook hands with him gently. I began the meeting by making small talk about my interesting experiences in 35 China. During the meeting, I made sure that my voice and body language were calm and controlled. I never told a joke, as this may not be translated correctly, or could cause offence."

Was it a successful meeting?

40 "Yes, it was. I knew that the director had researched my business thoroughly before the meeting, so I was prepared for his detailed questions. When I began negotiating, I started with the important issues. The Chinese believe in avoiding conflict. They'd rather we took a long time and 45 finally found a solution. I was prepared to compromise, so in the end, the meeting was successful. In China, it is always important to be patient. If only we were more patient in business meetings here: I'm sure we'd achieve more!"

Getting it Right...

Customs and traditions for newborn babies around the world

The birth of a baby is a very special event. Newborn babies are welcomed into the world in many different ways, depending on the customs, traditions and beliefs of the society into which the baby is born.

In **Bali**, it is believed that newborn babies are pure, and that touching the ground in the first three months of their lives will bring them bad luck. During these three months, Balinese people think that babies should be carried everywhere. After that, the family holds a ceremony to introduce the baby to the world. Relatives and friends gather to celebrate the event. The baby can then touch the ground for the first time.

In **Brazil**, a new mother has to provide gifts and souvenirs to visitors who come to the hospital to congratulate her. It is a way of thanking them for coming. She can give anything from sweets and baked goods to tiny perfume bottles and notes of appreciation.

In **China**, new parents have to give out eggs to friends and family so that their baby will have a happy life. Eggs are a symbol of life, and they should be dyed red because red is a symbol of happiness in China. A celebration is held on the thirtieth day of the baby's life, when friends and family present the baby with gifts, usually money that is wrapped in red paper.

In some northern countries like **Sweden**, babies have to take their naps outside in the freezing cold. Mothers put their cots outside on a balcony or on the pavement, with plenty of blankets, because it is believed that fresh air will help the baby to sleep better and be healthier. They even think that the cold air will stop the baby from catching a common cold!

Project

Write about a country.

Your task

- Choose a country that interests you. Carry out some research. Make notes on some of the following:
 - climate
 - landscape
 - wildlife
 - food and culture
 - what you can visit there
 - how you can travel around
- Write a short text about the country that you have chosen using your notes from above. Answer the questions.
- Prepare some questions to ask your classmates about the country they have chosen. Read your text to the class. Answer questions about the country.

Questions

- Why would you like to visit this country?
- What would you like to see there?
- How would you travel around?



92

Mission Possible Intermediate

Project

Write about the culture of a country.

Your task

- Choose a country that interests you. Focus on the country's culture.
- Write about the culture of your chosen country. Answer the questions. Research the answers using books, magazines and the Internet.
- Share your work with the class.

Questions

- What customs and traditions are there in this country?
- What are the typical foods and dishes in this country?
- What is the history of this country?
- What archaeological sites and treasures can be seen in this country?



108

Mission Possible Upper Intermediate

**Effective
preparation
for life beyond
the classroom**

**Practises 21st
Century Skills**

Why Use Projects?

**Makes
language
meaningful,
motivating**

**Good for
mixed abilities**

**Diagnostic
tool**



A Lebanon Quiz for Rob...

(Easy Questions please!)

5 things I missed about the UK....

- 1. Family**
- 2. Pubs**
- 3. TV**
- 4. Driving on the correct side of the road**
- 5. Charity bookshops**

5 things I like about being away from the UK....

- 1. Café culture**
- 2. New food**
- 3. Lower cost of living (sometimes)**
- 4. Easy to travel**
- 5. New languages**

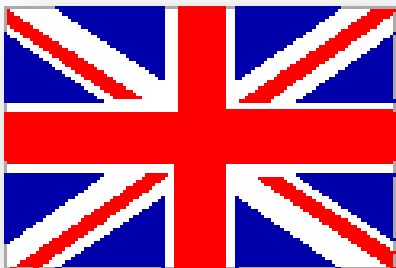


Culture and Language

(in)Directness



Czy są bilety?
- Nie ma.



**Do you have
any tickets?**



Indirectness

How are you?
Fine thanks.

Nice weather.
Yes, very nice.

**Have you had your
lunch?**
I've eaten already.





‘Thank You’

More indirectness

Is anyone feeling cold
in here?



Do you know what
time it is!!!!!!??????



Have you got your car
with you?



Indirectness

How's the new car?

It's getting very late.

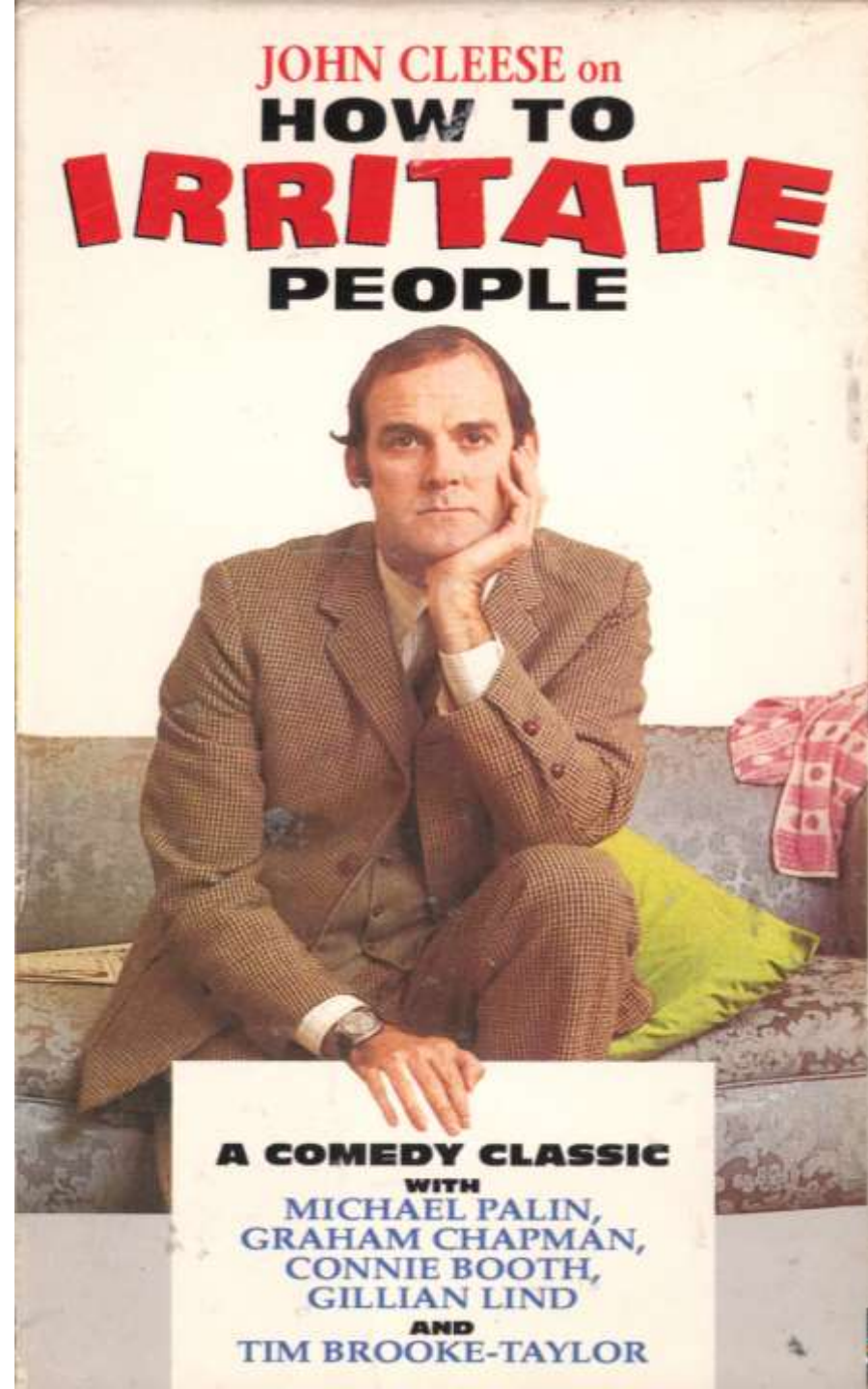
Are you going to stay long?

Do you know where the station is?

It's going to rain.

Do you know the number to phone for a cab?

= Please give me a lift.



A

English as it's really used...

B

~~Hi!~~ Hey!

Ciao! ~~Cheerio!~~

Thanks for your invite ~~Thanks for your invitation~~

It's trending ~~It's popular~~

~~I'm very well~~ I'm good

Whatever! ~~I don't mind.~~

~~Railway station~~ Train station

Can I get a latte? ~~Can I have a coffee with milk?~~

~~film~~ movie

Awesome! ~~Marvellous!~~

COVID-19 (n)

doomscrolling (n)

Coronacut (n)

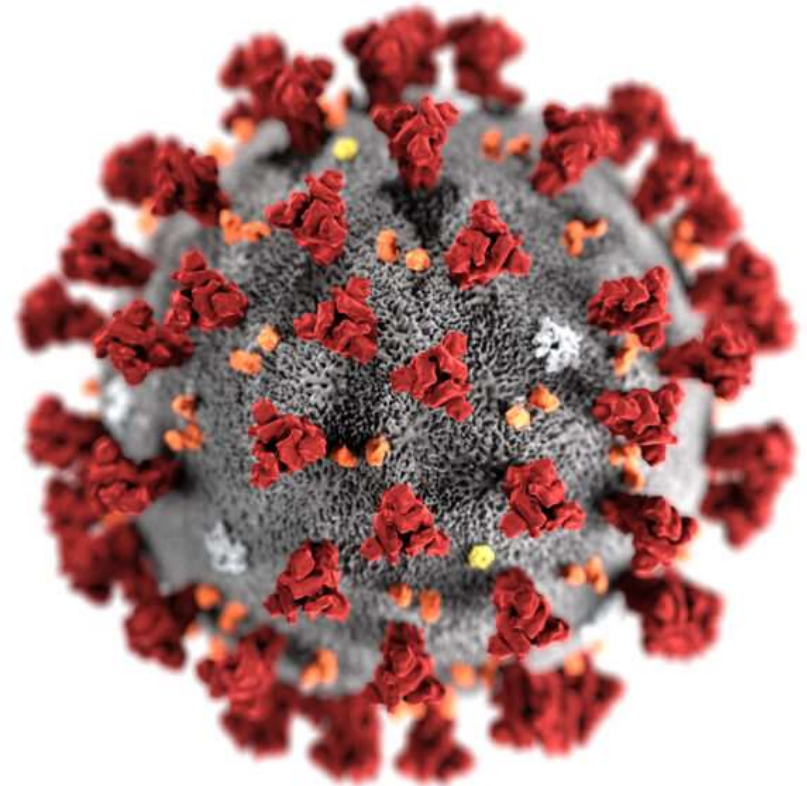
furlough (n)

Zoom town (n)

covidiot (n)

quarantini (n)

www.dictionary.com/e/s/new-words-we-created-because-of-coronavirus



Blends

jeans + leggings = **jeggings**

web + seminar = **webinar**

Britain + exit = **Brexit**

glamorous + camping = **glamping**



Jennifer + Lopez = **J-Lo**



Boris + Johnson = **Bo-Jo**

The impact of new technology: TLAs (Three Letter Acronyms)



LOL Laugh out Loud

BBL Be back later

EOD End of discussion

LMK Let me know

FYA For your amusement

POS Parent over shoulder

Alphabet taught to kids nowadays



A: APPLE



B: BLUETOOTH



C: CHAT:



D: DOWNLOAD



E: E MAIL



F: FACEBOOK



G: GOOGLE



H: HEWLETT
PACKARD



I: Iphone



J: JAVA



K: KINGSTON



L: LAPTOP



M: MESSENGER



N: NERO



O: ORKUT



P; PICASSA



Q: QUICK HEAL



R: RAM



S: SERVER



T: TWITTER



U: USB



V: VISTA



W: WIFI



X: Xp



Y: YOU TUBE



Z: ZORPIA

The Age of Political Correctness

~~manic depressive~~

bipolar

~~air stewardess~~

flight attendant

~~BC, AD~~

BCE, CE

~~blind~~

non-sighted

~~fat~~

person of substance

~~cheating~~

collaborative learning



Culture and Pronunciation

Queen's English?





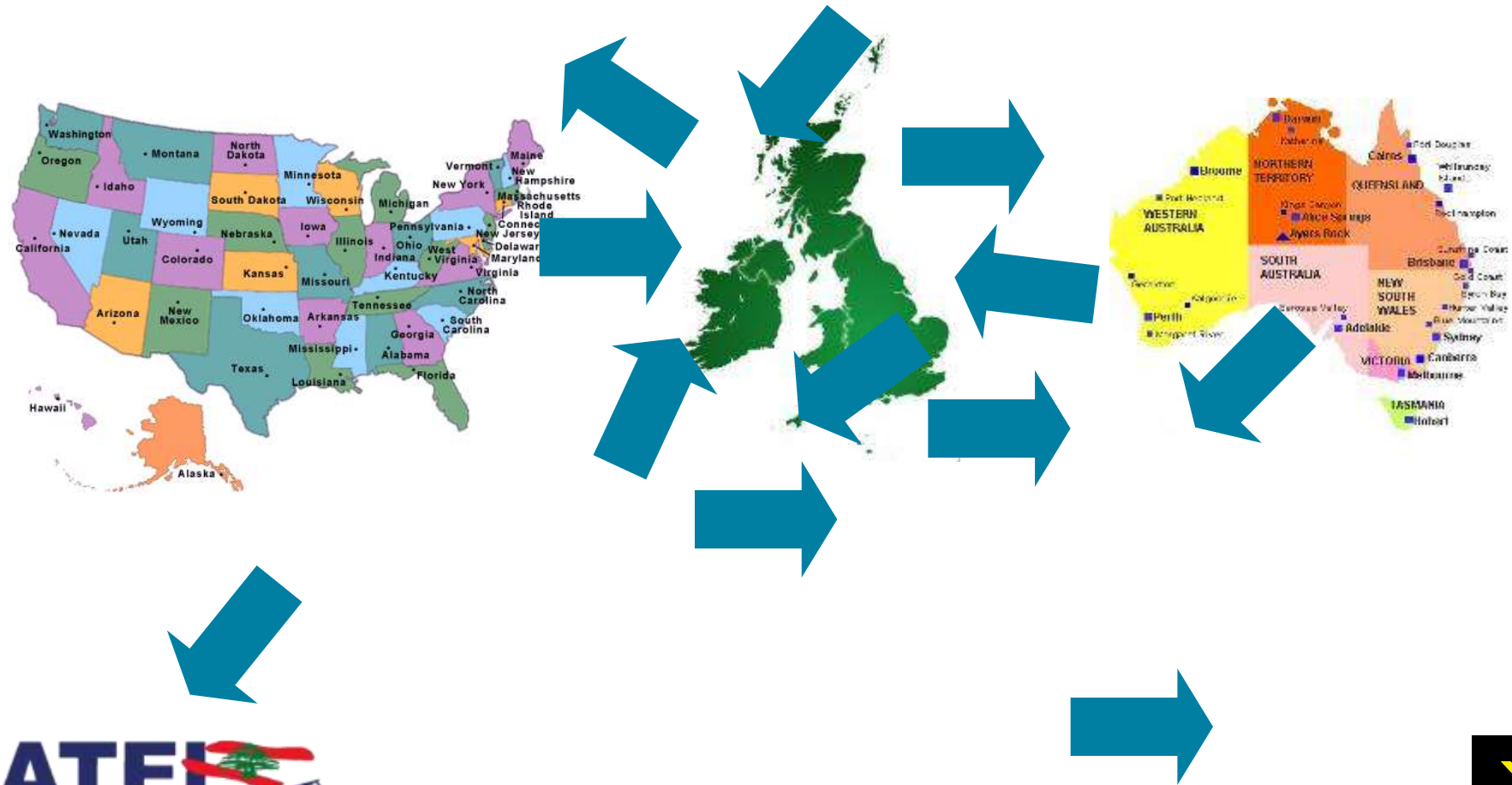


Estuary English

BBC



Pronunciation... on the move



The Oz / NZ Effect



Kylie Minogue



Nicole Kidman



Paul Hogan



Russell Crowe

The Antipodean Effect

It's great to be here.



I enjoy my work.



I've been here before.



Antipodean Intonation (Rising Terminus)

American Shortening

going to /gɒnə/

want to /wɒnə/

sort of /sɔ:tə/



Culture and Eating Habits

Which Country?

Ceviche (raw fish)

1. Thailand, Malaysia

Ostrich

2. South Africa

Durian (stinky fruit)

3. Australia

Crocodile

4. Peru

**Waterblommetjie
bredie (flower stew)**

5. Brazil

6. South Africa

Different cultures, different food

Sam has just returned from a trip around the world, and he's going to tell us about some of the food he ate. Can you tell me about the strangest thing you ate?

That was definitely the durian.

What's that?

It's a very strange fruit with a spiky skin.

Where did you eat it?

I ate it in Thailand.

Why is the durian fruit unusual?

It is huge, and it's very spiky. But its smell is so strong that it has been officially banned from many public places in Asia!

How do you eat it?

You cut it open, chop the flesh and eat it raw.

What was it like?

I didn't like it very much! I preferred the other

strange thing I ate, which was in South Africa. It was a stew made from flowers. This dish smelt lovely! The flowers grow on top of the water in lakes. You cook them with meat and vegetables in a large pot.

Did you eat any raw meat on your trip?

No, I didn't, but I tried raw fish. It's called ceviche, and I had it in Peru. It's a seafood dish, made from fresh raw fish which has been marinated in lemon juice.

What does it taste like?

It's very nice, actually!

Have you ever eaten any unusual meat?

Yes, I've had ostrich meat in South Africa. And I had barbecued crocodile steaks in Australia once.

Did you enjoy ostrich meat and crocodile steaks?

Yes, I did. They were delicious.

1



2



3



4



Odd one out?

BBC





What Lebanese food should every foreign visitor try (at least once!)

Food around the world

21 Listen and read.



My name's Kay. I'm from Jamaica. My favourite lunch is jerk chicken with rice. There are some peas in the rice too. It's a traditional dish and it's healthy. Yum! This is a meat patty. I love it. There aren't any vegetables in a meat patty.



jerk chicken



I'm Berta and I'm from Italy. My favourite dinner is pizza. It's a famous food from Italy. There are some tomatoes and some cheese on it. It's a famous food from Italy.



PORTFOLIO

Think and write.

In my favourite dish there are tomatoes and peas. There is some rice too.

22 Read and answer.

- Are there any vegetables in the rice?
- Is there any peas in the rice?
- Is there any famous food from Italy?
- Are there any carrots on the pizza?

27 Read the texts and match the words in blue with the photographs.

Food traditions



Naoko, Japan

Here in Japan, we don't use knives and forks for our meals. It is our custom to eat meals with chopsticks. We do use a type of spoon when we have soup and stew. Another tradition in Japan is the tea ceremony. Husbands, wives, grandparent children come together for a formal gathering. Green tea is served. We wear traditional kimono.

Charlotte, Sweden

We have many Swedish traditions in the different seasons. In August, it is summer time in Sweden. This is the time when families get together for a crayfish party. We decorate our gardens.

Geoffrey, United States

In the United States, we have many food traditions. One of them is the barbeque. This is something that we do when we have parties and celebrations and the weather is nice. We cook burgers and steak on the barbeque.

PORTFOLIO

Think and write.

Write a report about food traditions in your country.

28 Ask and answer.

What do they use to eat in Japan? What do you use to eat in your country?

Which of these do you like best?

29 Ask and answer.

Do you have any similar traditions in your country?





Culture and Sausages

**You can tell a lot about a country's culture by
its sausages...**



Pete McCarthy, British Comedian, TV Presenter, Travel Writer 1951-2004

You can tell a lot about a country's culture by its sausages...



Germany



Spain



Switzerland

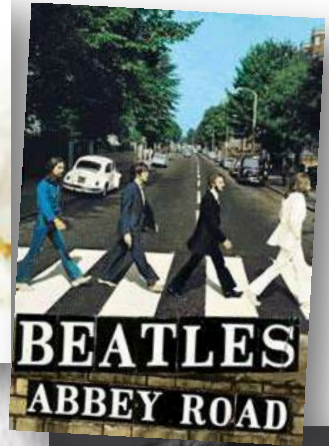


Italy



Great Britain

British Culture?



THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

Watching *the* English

The Hidden Rules of
English Behaviour

REVISED
New research,
observations &
over 100
updates

'An absolutely
brilliant
examination of
English culture'

Jennifer
Saunders,
The Times



KATE FOX

British Culture

Addiction to soap
operas

A love of moaning – but
the inability to complain

Nosiness

Sarcasm

Insularity

Tolerance

Love of a good curry

Kate Fox: *Watching the English*
(Hodder & Stoughton)



What does it mean to be British?

**Being British is about driving a German car
to an Irish pub
for a Belgian beer,
then buying an Indian curry, Turkish kebab or
Italian pizza on the way home,
eating it sitting on Swedish furniture
whilst watching American TV shows
on a South Korean TV.**

**But what's the most British thing of all?
Distrust of anything foreign.**



And finally...

**Cultures and
languages working
together?**



Fawlty Towers – Manuel Gives Basil a Language Lesson

Thank You

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