

Learning objectives for this lesson

Reading for gist, scanning for specific information, reading for detailed comprehension, focusing on key vocabulary from the text, and discussing themes arising from the text.

- 1** Get students to work in pairs to discuss the questions then take whole class feedback.

Suggested answers

Students may come up with things like patriotism, language, festivals, landscape, and the way people feel and interact with nature, etc.

- 2** Hand out the text. Give students two minutes to skim read the text. Draw a picture of an iceberg on the board and elicit from students what is above the surface, and what lies beneath it.

Answers

- 1** British
2 Above the water:
people's appearance
food
buildings
Below the water:
attitudes towards friends and family
religious beliefs
rules and fairness

- 3** Ask students to discuss their answers in pairs before taking whole class feedback.

Answers

- 1** Because it is easy to offend and upset people without knowing why.
2 It is determined by things that we learn from a very early age. This sets up a set of beliefs that determines how we behave. If people come from cultures with different 'mind-sets', this can cause conflict and misunderstanding.
3 By reading up about the differences and perhaps going on a course to help with culture shock.
4 The better we understand why we do certain things, the more understanding we will be of other people's behaviour.
5 The need for small talk and chat, making fun of ourselves, the need to make jokes all the time and show that we have a good sense of humour.

- 4** Treat this as a whole class discussion. Ask students to comment on whether they have taken steps to understand their culture better or other cultures.

- 5** Get students to work in pairs and match the two parts of the collocations. Then get them to check their answers in the text before checking answers as a class.

Answers

1 f **2** d **3** a **4** h **5** g **6** c **7** b **8** e

- 6** Get students to work in pairs to use the text to help them work out the meaning from the context. Guide them as necessary.

Answers

- 1** body language = the gestures and posture we use
2 stereotypical behaviour = the actions that typify a culture
3 facial expression = attitudes in the facial features
4 character flaw = a negative characteristic
5 silly mistake = an error that could be avoided if better judgement were used
6 globalized world = the idea that the world is one cultural entity
7 fundamental belief = a belief that is ingrained in a culture
8 small talk = chatting about mundane and everyday things

- 7** Treat this as a whole class activity. Allow students to scan the text for the words if necessary.

Answers

- 1** reflex
2 taboo
3 ingrained
4 outraged
5 wrecked
6 compartmentalized
7 cope
8 submerged

- 8** Ask students to look at the text again and find three words that would be useful in their line of work. Get them to discuss their answers with their partner giving reasons why.

- 9** Get the students to discuss the questions in pairs or small groups and then take whole class feedback.