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EuroSpective

A fresh prospective from European youth



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A TASTE OF UNION

How different cuisine culture integrate with each other

Every one of us has certain food they enjoy and love eating. But why is that? Is it only a matter of taste preference or something more? During the "United plates of Europe" youth exchange, we came to the realization that different people, from different countries, share more in common than they know,

When someone thinks of their favorite food, what comes to their mind is "happiness", Stavros 22, Greece, "Nostalgic of home", Kristina, 18, Latvia, "Celebrations and Holidays", Nelly, 22, Bulgaria, "way to show others my affection",

Daniela, 27, Italy. Basically most people connect the idea of tasty food with safety, happiness, friends, family,

Globalization contributed to the opportunity for countries to enrich their culture and exchange characteristics. Same applies for food recipes. "My favorite food is sushi" says Anna, 28, Belgium. When she thinks about sushi, she says it is "a source of energy, health and a beacon of light", cause she enjoyed sushi with her friends that supported through a very hard period of her life.

She comes from a country, that combines culture of three nations, but her favorite originates from Asia.

As you can see food isn't only about fulfilling basic needs, but a means of communication between people and a way to express feelings. Therefore the contacts and exchange of cuisine between nations leads to the unification of the modern world, and contributes to peace,



Plan, search, go!

Before traveling to a new country you have to learn some useful stuff. Here are some tips to help you plan your trip and make it a lot safer and fun for you!! First of all you could do some local research about the history the location and the language used.

Then you have to check what currency the country you are visiting is using. Just be sure to have some local cash cause not every place take credit cards. When it comes to economic traveling its way much cheaper to book some tickets for the attractions you want to visit in advance (online) than get stuck up in a line there on the spot.

Food and Traditions: Before visiting the specific country it could be really nice to check some traditions. Maybe the days you are going to visit will have a special event you can take part of. Be careful though for gestures that will be considered as offensive. You should totally avoid offending someone, especially if you don't even know that you are doing it. Maybe do a little research on the traditional food of the country. Some countries really enjoy eating spicy food, or insects, that you would rather not try. Except if you like living dangerously.

Moving Around: I believe the cheapest way going around a country or a city is with the public transport. You could use a taxi but man the charge carbon for gold. So you can search for trains, metro or even buses. In some countries they like moving around with bicycles, so you can easily join the city with renting one! Its a lot healthier way to move around and you could loose some " holiday kilos" that you are stacking up. NOTE: Don't forget to get a local guide or map of the city/country you are visiting, it will make your life a lot easier. Have a nice trip!!



Safe Traveling

My Country is the best because...

There is a culture that every country has. Traditions, food, clothes, etc. That forms in the past and goes through our history until today. Culture is anything materialistic or spiritual that is unique to a society to transpose to its future generations. As a human concept is a system of meaning and importance created in history. Humanity is born and grows with its culture. Its the feeling that our country is engraved in our hearts. When we asked some countries about their culture they said;

Greece: My country is the best because of its climate.

Because of the cultural inheritance it provides to the next generation on how we see the world around us.

Romania: My country is the best because of its nature and its beautiful landscapes. I love the fact that we still keep out tradition. We wear our traditional clothes, gather around with our family and have traditional food and drinks.

Bulgaria: My country is the best because of the diversity of our nature.

Turkey: My country is the best because we have a lot of different cultures and nationality. This diversities integrate cultural richness to our country.

Poland: My country is the best because we have all kinds of landscapes;

mountains, beautiful beaches, historical places and forests.

Cyprus: My country is the best because we have beautiful beaches, you can enjoy your self under the sun and the really nice weather conditions .

Italy: My country is the best because we have the best museum in Europe.

Latvia: My country is the best because the smartest and most understanding people in the world, the most beautiful human beings.

Belgium: My country is the best because we have the best chocolate and we produce the best beer in the world.

Every culture has many diversities. Every country is beautiful in its own unique way. If we take a closer look on all the above we can see the different prospective each and every one has for the beauties of his/hers country. But what do we get out of all this examples? The reality is that all of these beauties transform into one world for all of us.



How strong are our customs and traditions?

How do they influence our daily lives?

What do we think about our national customs? Do we have to remember about our history and where we came from?

No matter what we do, culture is a part of the society we live in. No matter if our culture is from birth or the culture of the new country in which we reside. A personality includes three factors: first: the ethnicity (DNA), second: our background - culture of the parents and third: character/kindness of the person.

Poles still share/break the bread at Christmas Eve.

Latvians jump over the fire during The Jani.

Cypriots after so many years know how to make soulva.

Turks are so defined by Ramadan.

Belgians create they own "language of gestures" to order a beer.

Using culture as the lens to explain success and failure also obscures more widespread socioeconomic and biological factors. To really understand culture's role in shaping our lives, we have to understand that culture is not just the inert repository of ideas and customs we all live with, but that it is shaped by various factors too.

Because of the traditions and customs we sometimes seem to be or really are more introvert, suspicious and less trusting. In so many circumstances we prefer to stick to what we know, to what is "ours" instead of trying to be openminded, understand and not judge whatever we see as different.

Every nation, every culture is unique. This small differences create customs.

History creates traditions. So yes, they are strong, they are the essence of our identity.

It is naive to believe that culture creates a person. Culture shapes our lives, but many events mold culture and we change these just as much.

Traditions represent a critical piece of our culture. They help form the structure and foundation of our families and our society. They remind us that we are part of a history that defines our past, shapes who we are today and who we are likely to become. Once we ignore the meaning of our traditions, we're in danger of damaging the underpinning of our identity.



TrustBall

The bigger picture of the game is to raise awareness for the inequality in modern societies. The game helps you realize the obstacles of the disabled people, as well as the people with less opportunities have to overcome. Furthermore it improves the communication, teamwork, learning to learn skills and trust.

-Requirements

- 1-) 2 teams of 3 couples each. (Total 12 people)
- 2-) 6 blindfolds and 12 small piece of rope
- 3-) 1 hand-ball
- 4-) 4 chairs

The purpose of the game is to score as many goals as you can. The duration of the game is 20 minutes, with a two-minute break in between. The two teams consist of 3 couples each. Each couple has one of their feet tied together. One of them is blindfolded and he/she is the only one able to pass/score the ball. The other person is able to see, but has tied hands behind his back. They have to communicate in order to win. You need to pass at least 2 times the ball with your team before scoring.

Have fun!

