

## Unit 12

### How different are the Japanese and the Spanish?<sup>1</sup>

#### READING 1

*The following comments were made by Americans about Chinese people. Read each comment very carefully and then discuss with your partner what the comment tells you about American themselves. The first has been done as an example.*

1. "The Chinese don't show their emotions and so you can never tell what they're thinking."

*From this comment I can draw the conclusion that Americans do not hide their feelings. Their emotions are plain for everyone to see. This must make life very difficult and embarrass people.*

2. "Chinese people like to ask very personal questions, such as: 'How much do you earn?'"

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<sup>1</sup> Heaton, Brian. *Topics in English: A Reading Skills Course 1*, Longman Asia Limited, 1994, PP. 8-12

3. **“The Chinese love to live in big cities and never seem happy unless there is a lot of noise.”**

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4. **“The Chinese are always talking about food and they love to go to restaurants frequently for big meals.”**

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5. **“When they do occasionally invite you to their house, they always apologize about how poor everything is.”**

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6. **“They always make a lot of noise when they eat, and leave food all over the table.”**

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7. **“When you give Chinese people presents, they never open them in front of you. It seems very rude to us.”**

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8. **“Chinese people often give more expensive present than they can afford.”**

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9. **“The Chinese will sacrifice everything to make sure their children get a good education.”**

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## READING 2

*The following text is about differences between Japanese and Spanish people.*

The differences between Japanese and Spanish people result from the different histories of the two countries and the huge distance between them. Here are the results of a questionnaire which was completed by Japanese and Spanish workers in a large business in Spain.

<b>This is what the Japanese said about the Spanish:</b>	<b>This is what the Spanish said about the Japanese:</b>
<p>“The Spanish are ashamed to admit that they like working.”</p> <p>“The Spanish often go out to parties until very late at night and then the next day they come to work late.”</p> <p>“The Spanish give no explanation if a train or plane is late—even if you ask them. However, if you ask them anything, they will spend half an hour explaining something which is unimportant.”</p> <p>“Spanish people will look you straight in the eyes—it frightens you.”</p> <p>“Girls put on their make-up in buses and cars.</p> <p>“Spanish people always greet you when you meet them.”</p>	<p>“The more the Japanese work, the happier they feel.”</p> <p>“The Japanese are very punctuai and always arrive at work before we do. But they spend half the day sleeping in the office or at meetings.”</p> <p>“The Japanese seem unwilling to give you any information as possible for themselves.”</p> <p>“The Japanese say only ‘ah’ and ‘so’ and nod their head. They tell you how they feel about something.”</p> <p>“Japanese girls put their hand over their mouth when they laugh.”</p> <p>“Japanese people never greet you when they see you.”</p>

## Word Study

apologize (v)	= express regret for
sacrifice (v)	= act of offering the life of a person or animal
ashamed (adj.)	= feeling shame, guilt or sorrow about something
punctual (adj.)	= arriving or doing something at the right time, not late
explanation (n)	= what you say or write to make people understand something
gestures (n)	= movements with your hands or feet to show something you mean
nod (v)	= move your head up and down
make up (n)	= powder, etc., which women put on their face
greet (v)	= welcome someone when you meet him

## Word Building

คำศัพท์ภาษาอังกฤษที่เป็นชื่อประเทศก็ดี หรือชื่อภาษาก็ดี สามารถสร้างเป็นคำคุณศัพท์ หรือ คำนามบุคลได้ โดยใช้ suffixes

## Vocabulary Exercise

Look at the following list containing the words used to refer to some common countries, the people who live there, the language they speak and the adjectives used to describe things from these countries. Try to complete the list on the next page.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
<b>Australia</b>	_____	<b>English</b>	<b>Australian</b>
_____	<b>a Canadian</b>	_____	<b>Canadian</b>
<b>China (ROC)</b>	_____	<b>Chinese</b>	_____
<b>the CIS</b>	<b>a Russian, etc.</b>	<b>Russian, etc.</b>	_____
<b>England</b>	_____	<b>English</b>	_____
_____	<b>a Frenchman</b>	_____	<b>French</b>
<b>Germany</b>	_____	<b>German</b>	_____
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>a Briton, a Brit</b>	<b>English,</b>	_____
		<b>Welsh, Gaelic</b>	
<b>India</b>	_____	<b>Hindustani,</b>	<b>Indian</b>
		<b>Urdu, etc.</b>	
<b>Indonesia</b>	_____	<b>Bahasa Indonesia</b>	_____
_____	<b>an Italian</b>	_____	<b>Italian</b>
<b>Japan</b>	_____	_____	<b>Japanese</b>
_____	_____	<b>Korean</b>	<b>Korean</b>
<b>Malaysia</b>	_____	<b>Bahasa Malaysia</b>	_____
<b>New Zealand</b>	_____	<b>English, Maori</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>
_____	<b>a Filipino</b>	<b>Tagalog,</b>	<b>Philippine,</b>
		<b>Filipino</b>	<b>Filipino</b>
<b>Spain</b>	_____	<b>Spanish</b>	_____
<b>Switzerland</b>	_____	<b>French, German,</b>	<b>Swiss</b>
		<b>Italian</b>	
_____	_____	<b>Thai</b>	<b>Thai</b>
<b>the USA</b>	_____	_____	_____

## Comprehension Questions

A. Answer these questions about the attitudes of Spanish and Japanese workers to each other.

1. What are the Japanese surprised about whenever they meet the Spanish?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do you think the Spanish don't like giving the Japanese a lot of information? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What surprises the Japanese if a train arrives late in Spain?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the difference in attitude to work between the Japanese and the Spanish? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Why do you think there are such great differences between Japanese and Spanish workers? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Here are some incidents which happened recently. Write out only the numbers of those incidents which agree with the comments made by the Spanish.

1. I saw Mr. Nakamura this morning, but he never spoke to me.

2. Mrs. Uchida said she felt very sad and lonely after her husband died.

3. Kenji is sometimes very late for work, but he stays long after the others have left in order to finish what he is doing.

4. Yae covers her mouth whenever she thinks a joke is very funny.
5. Masanori will always look straight at you when he agrees with what you say.
6. Mr. Asano usually talks a lot about the new project he is working on.
7. Mrs. Sato seems to be happiest when she is hard at work.
8. Professor Ito looked past me at some object in the distance throughout our conversation.
9. Hiroshi and Kenji both closed their eyes for a few minutes during the important meeting.
10. Koichi is quite lazy and always puts off to another day what he should do now.

C. Complete the blanks in the text with the following phrase and clauses:

Write only the letters in the blanks.

- a. have been out late the night before
- b. travelling on buses and in cars
- c. say hello
- d. look straight at the people they are talking to
- e. do not like work

Spanish people claim they 1 \_\_\_\_\_. They rarely arrive on time after they 2 \_\_\_\_\_. They wave their hands as they talk and 3 \_\_\_\_\_. When they see other people in the street, they always 4 \_\_\_\_\_. Spanish women even put on face power and lipsticks while they are 5 \_\_\_\_\_.

## Grammar Point

การเปรียบเทียบทวีคูณ ในความหมาย .ยิ่ง ... เท่าไหร่ ก็ยิ่ง...เท่านั้น ภาษาอังกฤษใช้คำคุณศัพท์  
ขั้นกว่านำหน้าประโยคทั้งสองประโยค ดังนี้คือ

The more + ประโยค, the better + ประโยค  
ประโยคที่อยู่ในข้อความที่อ่านคือ

The more the Japanese work, the happier they feel.

## Activity 1

Join each half of the sentence in List A with the most appropriate half in List B.

Write out each complete sentence. The first has been done as an example.

### List A

1. The harder you study
2. The sooner we arrive
3. The more I learned about Ted
4. The bigger the car
5. The further I travelled,
6. The more careless you are,

### List B

- a. the more gas it will use.
- b. the more I missed home.
- c. the better it is for your back.
- d. the sooner we can leave.
- e. the easier it is to keep it clean.
- f. the more mistakes you'll make.



7. **The smaller the apartment,**

**g. the more you' ll learn.**

8. **The harder the bed,**

**h. the more I admire him.**

1.  **The harder you study, the more you'll learn.** \_\_\_\_\_
  2.  \_\_\_\_\_
  3.  \_\_\_\_\_
  4.  \_\_\_\_\_
  5.  \_\_\_\_\_
  6.  \_\_\_\_\_
  7.  \_\_\_\_\_
  8.  \_\_\_\_\_
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