

La Cultura

Quick-write: Culture

- How many Spanish-speaking countries do you think there are in the world - meaning, countries that list Spanish as an official language? (Hint: There are more than 20!)
- List all of the Spanish-speaking countries that you can think of. Think hard about what you have learned in the past!

Check-off game

- Whoever thinks their list is best/most complete will read off the countries on their list.
- Señorita Castillo will say if each country is correct or not. If you have the same country as the person reading, put a check-mark next to the country.
- This will show who came up with the most Spanish-speaking countries.

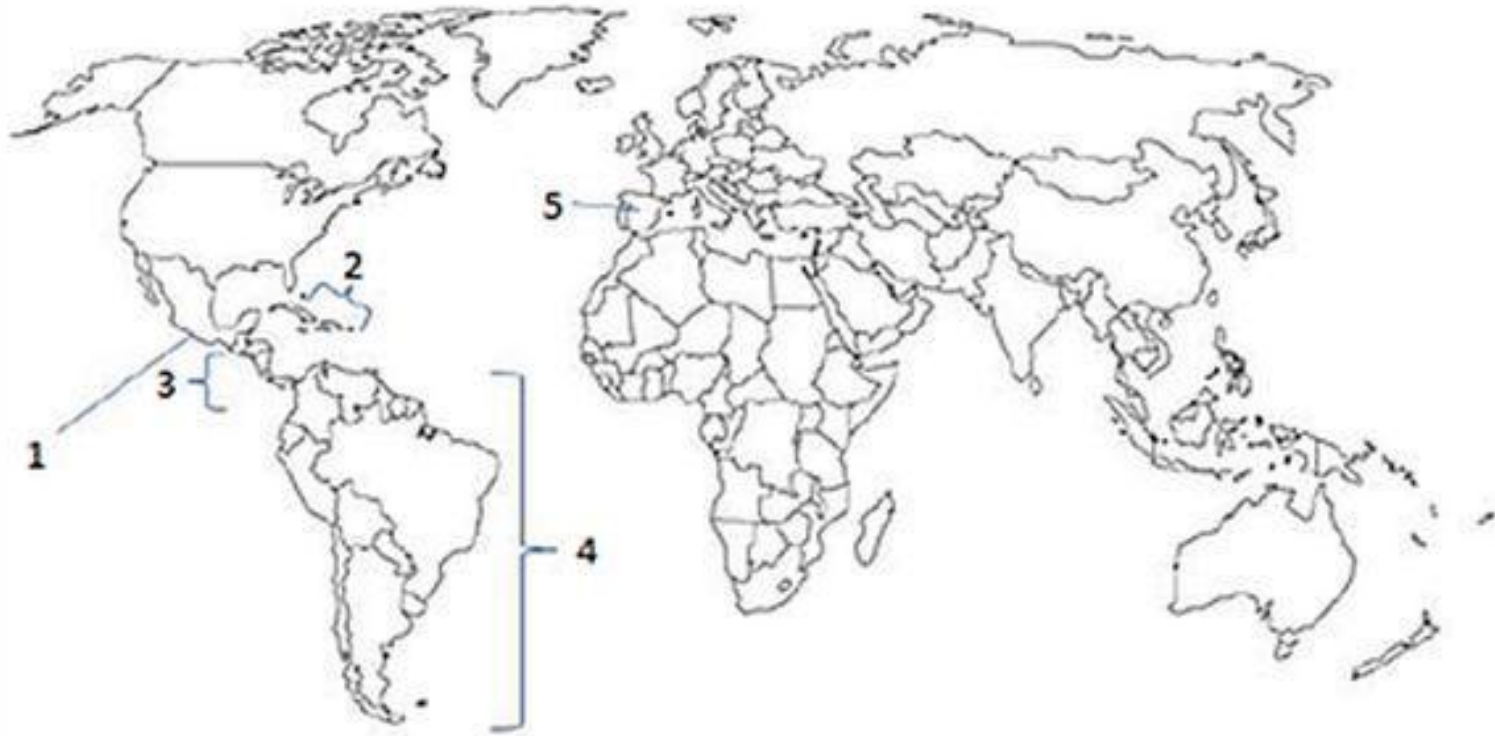
Spanish-speaking countries

- There are 21 countries in the world that list Spanish as an official language.
- These countries are: Mexico, Spain, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Cuba, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Paraguay, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Panama, Uruguay, Equatorial Guinea



Writing prompt

1. Do you like Salvador Dalí's artwork? Do you think he sounds like an interesting man? What is your favorite type of art? Do you think his art is different from American art?
2. What are the pros and cons of a whole country taking a "siesta" during the day? Would you like the US to take a "siesta" each day?
3. Do you like to dance? What is your favorite style of dance? Have you ever seen Flamenco dance, and did you like it? What is your favorite musical genre? Do you like Spanish guitar music? What do you think the national dance of the US would be if we had one? Why?
4. Do you think bull-fighting is ethical? Why or why not? Barcelona already banned bullfighting, but do you think that the rest of Spain should follow their lead? Would you like to watch a bullfight ever? Why?
5. Are you a big sports fan? What is your favorite sport? Do you like soccer? Do you understand why soccer fans are so devoted, or do you think that they are crazy?



1: Mexico

2: El Caribe

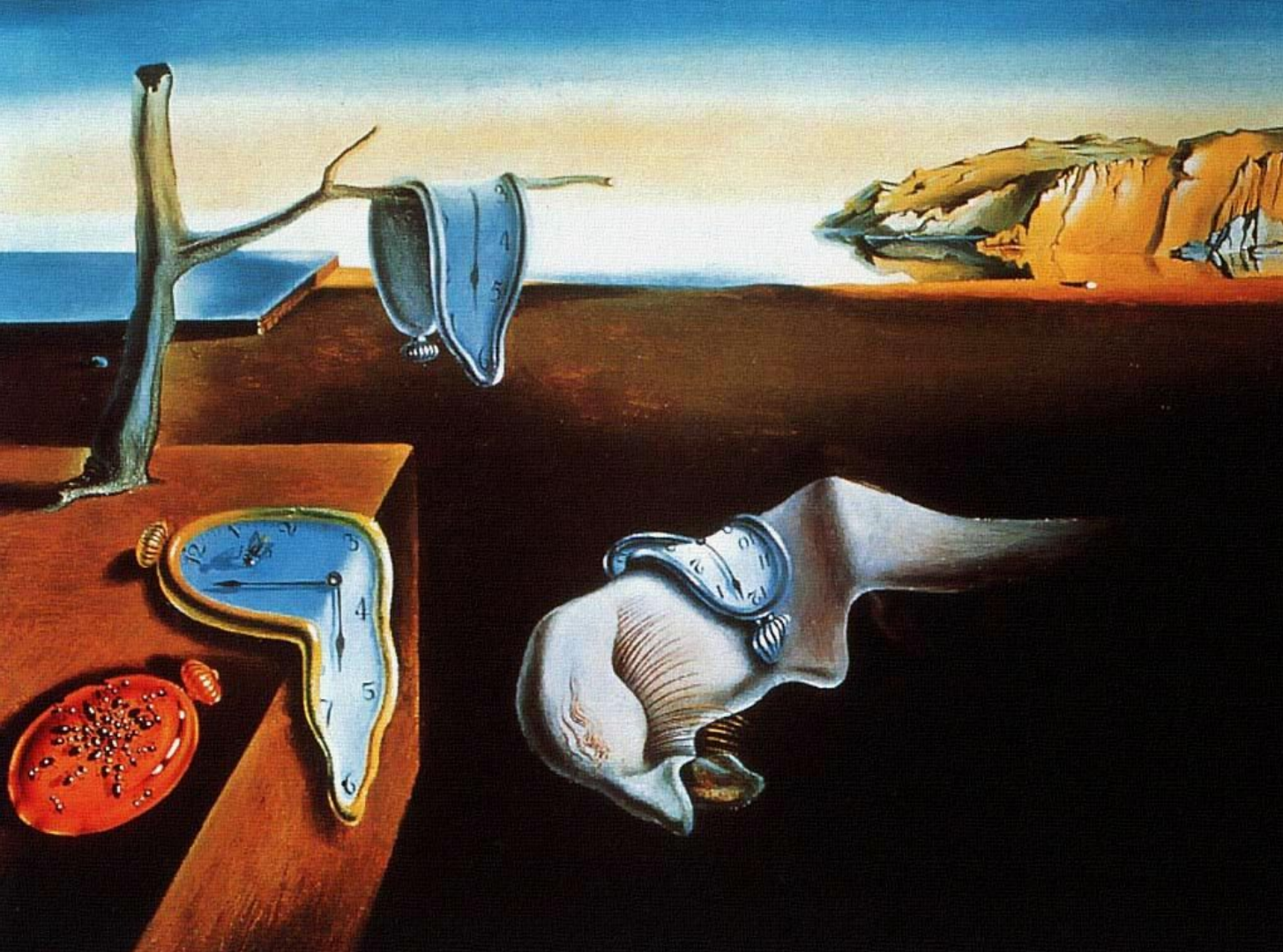
3: América Central

4: América del sur

5: España

Arte Salvador Dalí

Salvador Felipe Jacinto Dalí was born on May 11, 1904, in a little village in Spain. Dalí attended the San Fernando Academy of Fine Arts in Madrid where his talent was quickly recognized. His first one-man show was held in Barcelona in 1925. In 1928 he won international fame at the third annual Carnegie International Exhibition in Pittsburgh. Dalí went to Paris where he met Gala Eluard who was to become his lover, muse, manager and source of inspiration. They were married in 1934. During World War II Dalí and Gala took refuge in the United States, returning to Spain after the war. Ever flamboyant and with a flair for publicity, Dalí became a prolific artist of international fame. His common painting style was surrealist, meaning it looked realistic, but like a dream. Dalí had many interesting pets, such as an ocelot, an anteater, and a bat.



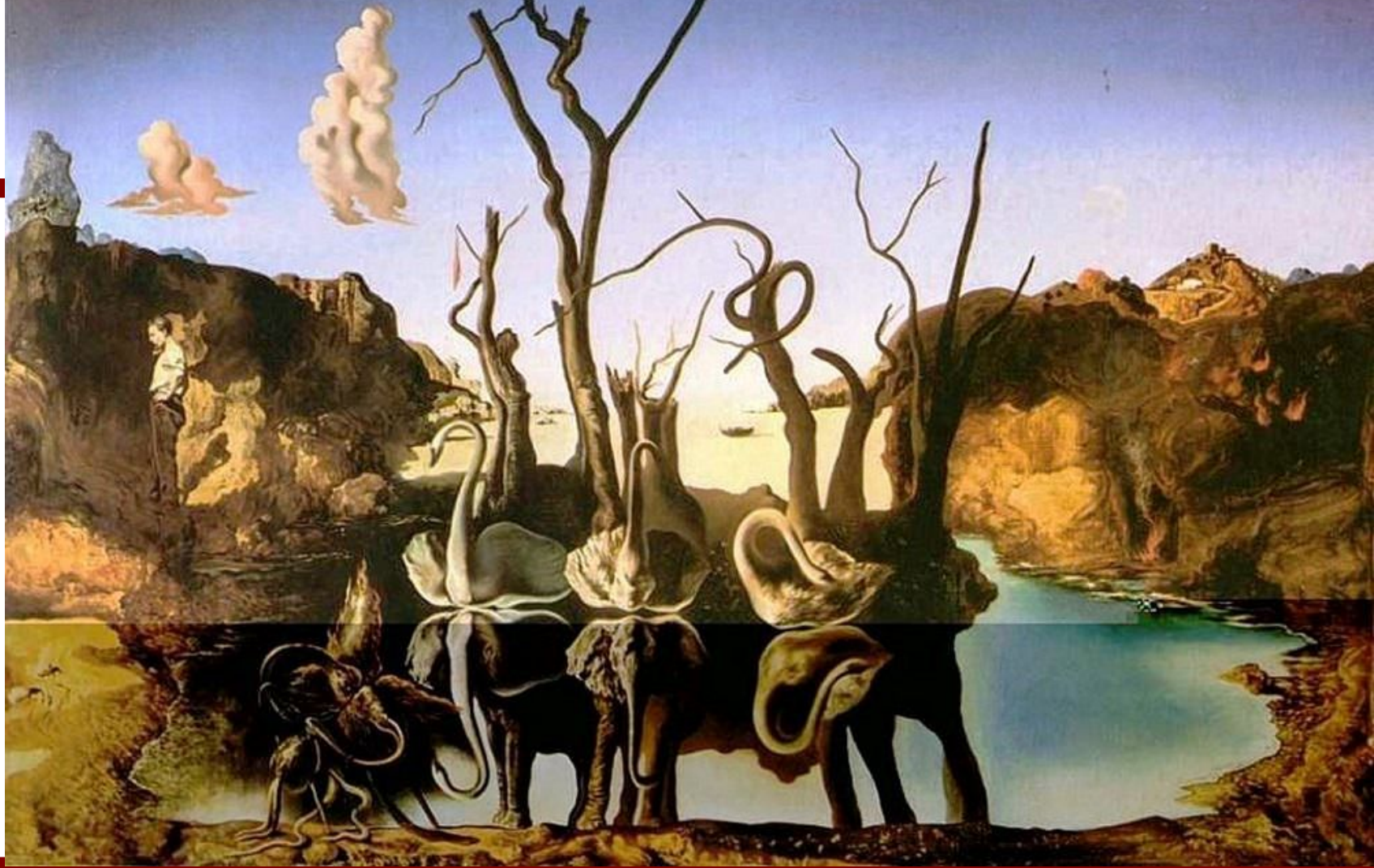
La Persistencia de la Memoria (1931)

According to Dalí, the clocks represent the passing of time, the mountains are the mountainous coast near where he grew up in Spain, and the figure in the middle represents a dreamer. The ants represent decaying, or, in this context, the passing of time.

Galatea of the Spheres (1952)

This painting depicts Dalí's wife and muse, Gala. The painting represents a fusion between Renaissance art and the Atomic Theory. Dalí became fascinated by nuclear physics and the atomic theory with the use of the first atomic bomb in 1945.







Metamorphosis
of Narcissus
(1937)



Santiago el Grande

St. James the great (1957)

Bullfighting

Spain's bullfighting tradition appalls some people and fascinates others. This violent sport continues to be very popular in many parts of Spain, despite the outrage and protests of various animal rights groups. Madrid, Seville, Granada and Pamplona have legendary bullrings in which matadors slaughter bulls in ballet-like rituals dating back hundreds of years. Bullfighting season lasts from spring through fall. The annual running of the bulls in Pamplona also attracts hordes of tourists every July during the San Fermin Festival. Daring locals and foreigners sprint down the town's streets in front of charging bulls, taunting the herd from their off-site corrals all the way to Pamplona's bullring.

Flamenco

Flamenco is an artform and genre of music and dance native to the southern Spanish regions of Andalusia, Extremadura and Murcia. It includes *cante* (singing), *toque* (guitar playing), *baile* (dance) and *jaleo*, which refers to the vocalizations and rhythmic sounds of *palmas* (handclapping) and *pitos* (finger snapping). Flamenco music, as a theatrical representation of Andalusian musical tradition, was first recorded in the late 18th century but the genre underwent a dramatic development in the late 19th century. In recent years flamenco has become popular all over the world and is taught in many non-Hispanic countries, especially in the United States and Japan. Professional Flamenco is an artform that can take a lifetime to master. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNhfv_53W7A

Food - la comida

Spain's most common breakfast food is the tortilla de patata, or potato omelet



Other common foods include seafood paella (a rice dish with different types of seafood)

chorizo sausage



gazpacho soup (tomato-based soup with vegetables)



and tapas. Tapas are small plates of food, like appetizers, that people order or prepare to share for the whole meal. Lunch is the biggest meal of the day.

The tradition of siesta plays into lunchtime, as many Spaniards tend to gather with their extended families for this leisurely meal, especially on Sundays. Locals also love to snack on tapas in the evening while enjoying a glass of wine.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7mFE9kOE-2Y>

Fútbol



Fútbol, or soccer, remains a national passion. Many of the best players and professional teams in the world are based in Spain. Bitter rivalries, such as the Real Madrid-Barcelona derby, send devoted fans into a frenzy. Team allegiances often reflect social and economic divisions, making a seemingly simple game even more serious for Spain's fútbol fans.

There have been instances of violence between the fans of the two teams. During one specific event, after a player transferred from FC Barcelona to Real Madrid, the FC Barcelona fans threw bottles, cans, and even a pig's head onto the field. One especially violent group of fans was banned from entering the stadium ever again.

The rivalry between these two teams began all the way back in the 1930s with the Spanish civil war.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5_JbQPNGxY

Writing Prompts - Mexico

1. What is your favorite holiday? How do the Mexican holidays seem to you? Do you think that you would like to celebrate any of the Mexican holidays? Why?
2. Does your family have similar values to the traditional Mexican family? Do you think their values are good or bad. How are they similar to the traditional family values in the United States? How are they different?
3. Have you heard of a quinceañera before? Why do you think girls celebrate this when they turn 15? Do you know of other cultures that have similar coming-of-age celebrations? Do you think that it sounds fun? Would you like to have a similar celebration when you turn a certain age?
4. How did you feel about the Mexican art? Do you think Frida Kahlo and her husband Diego Rivera are good artists? Do you think Frida's work is basic or unique? If you were a painter, what would you paint? Why?
5. Do you think the etiquette practices are very different from the etiquette that people use in the United States? What practice is the most different from your normal life? Do you think that these practices are good to have or bad? Why?

Mexican holidays

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is celebrated on Dec. 12, is a major Mexican holiday celebrating the appearance of the Virgin Mary to an Indian man in the first years of Spanish rule. She is the patron saint of the country.



The Day of the Dead, celebrated on Nov. 2, is a day set aside to remember and honor those who have died. The people sometimes spend the night at a cemetery where their loved ones are buried.



Carnival is also celebrated in many communities throughout Mexico to mark the period before Lent. During carnival, there are big parades and festivals with colorful floats and people marching.



Independence Day, marking the country's separation from Spain in 1810, is celebrated on Sept. 16. Cinco de Mayo, which marks a Mexican military victory over the French in 1862, is more widely celebrated in the United States than it is in Mexico.

Art and literature

Clay pottery, embroidered cotton garments, wool shawls and outer garments with angular designs, colorful baskets and rugs are some of the common items associated with Mexican folk art.

The country is closely associated with the Mariachi style of folk music. Originated in the southern part of the state of Jalisco sometime in the 19th century, it involves a group of musicians – playing violins, guitars, basses, vihuelas (a five-string guitar) and trumpets – and wearing silver-studded charro suits and elaborate hats. "La Cucaracha" is a well-known Mariachi staple.

Two of Mexico's most famous artists are Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. Their paintings include vibrant colors and depictions of life in Mexico.

Family Values

Mexicans put a high value on hierarchy and structure in business and family matters. Especially outside of cities, families are typically large and Mexicans are very conscious of their responsibilities to immediate family members and extended family such as cousins and even close friends.

Hosting parties at their homes plays a large part of Mexican life and making visitors feel comfortable is a large part of the values and customs of the country.

Family units are usually large, with traditional gender roles and extensive family involvement from the external members who assist one another in day to day life.

There is a strong connection between family members. Parents are treated with a high degree of respect, as is the family in general and there may be constant struggle, especially for the growing children between individual wants and needs and those wants and needs of the family.

Quinceañera

Quinceañera is a celebration of a girl's fifteenth birthday in parts of Latin America and elsewhere in communities of people from Latin America. This birthday is celebrated differently from any other as it marks the transition from childhood to young womanhood. Latin myths and tradition tell about how girls were prepared to be married by the age of fifteen or become nuns. In the years prior to their fifteenth birthdays, girls were taught to cook, weave, and about child rearing by the elder women in their communities in preparation for their expected lives as married women. The celebrations today vary significantly across countries; celebrations in some countries, for example, have taken on more religious overtones than in others. In the 21st century, many girls create their own Quinceañera celebrations. Whereas traditional dresses were formal and usually white or pink only, dress designs are now more varied. Also, instead of having the traditional seven damas and seven chambelanes, the Quinceañera may pick all damas or all chambelanes. Traditionally, girls were not allowed to dance in public until turning fifteen, but this taboo has also receded significantly. The ceremony of the Changing of the Shoes has also been modified. Instead of wearing slippers before ceremonially exchanging them for **high heels**, a girl may decide to wear shoes compatible with the color and style of her dress instead of donning the traditional slippers.

Etiquette

- To greet one another, Men will typically shake hands, or hug/pat on the back, and women will kiss/touch cheeks.
- Wait to be invited to address someone by their first name
- Do not give red flowers as a gift - they can be badly perceived. White flowers are better.
- When invited to someone's home, arrive about 30 minutes later than they told you to arrive. Arriving on time is considered rude. People typically bring a small gift for the host.
- You should greet or introduce yourself to everyone present at a small gathering
- When eating at the table, you should keep your hands visible at all times, with your wrists resting on the table while you're not eating.

Etiquette cont.

- You should wait to eat until the host has begun eating
- You should not leave the table until you ask to be excused
- At restaurants, it is uncommon to split the bill. More commonly, the person who initiated the meal will pay for it.
- Shorts, sleeveless tops, and sandals should never be worn at church.
- "Nodding" your finger means the same thing as nodding your head.
- When children get in trouble, they should look down while they are getting reprimanded. Looking their parent in the eye while being punished is a sign of disobedience.
- People walking down the street will often greet each other even if they are strangers.

Assignment

Please write a 5-8 sentence paragraph about each of five of the cultural concepts in this presentation that we have gone over the past few days (**THAT MEANS 5 PARAGRAPHS TOTAL, HELLO!!!**). You may do more research over the topics if you'd like. I am not looking for summaries, but your thoughts and opinions. How do you feel about the topic? Do you agree/disagree with it? How is it different than your own culture? Would you want to have this as part of your culture? <- You need not answer these questions specifically. They are just to get you thinking.