



ENGLISH FOR TOUR GUIDES

1. Warm-up Speaking (5–7 minutes)

Activity: Culture Shock Share

In pairs:

One person describes **one cultural difference** they know (from their own culture or another country).

The other asks 2–3 questions:

- Why is that important?
- What should tourists do?
- What happens if they forget?

Then switch roles.

Tip: Use "You should..." or "It's polite to..." in your answers.



2. Key Useful Phrases - Giving Cultural Tips & Etiquette Advice Professionally.

Explaining customs

- In this culture/country, it is customary to...
- You should / must / are expected to...
- It's considered polite / rude to...

Specific tips

- Please remove your shoes / cover your head / shoulders before entering...
- It's polite to eat with your right hand / use both hands when giving/receiving.
- Tipping is appreciated / not necessary here — about 10% is usual.
- No photos inside sacred places — please ask first outside.
- Speak quietly / avoid loud voices in religious sites.

Advice with reasons

- If you..., you might offend someone, so...
- You might want to... because...
- Many tourists forget this, but...

Closing politely

- Don't worry — most people understand tourists make mistakes.
- If you're not sure, just ask me!

Pronunciation tips

- Customary (KUS-tuh-mer-ee)
- Offend (uh-FEND)
- Sacred (SAY-kred)

3. Gap-Fill Practice – Giving Cultural Advice

Activity: Complete the Etiquette Advice

Fill in the gaps with words/phrases from the box to make clear, respectful tips.

ask / cover / should / customary / worry / polite / might offend / remove

"In this mosque, it is (1) _____ to (2) _____ your shoes at the entrance.

You (3) _____ also (4) _____ your head and shoulders — this shows respect.

If you don't, you (5) _____ someone, so please follow these rules.

It's (6) _____ to speak quietly inside.

If you're not sure about anything, just (7) _____ me. Don't (8) _____ — most tourists make small mistakes!"

4. Matching – Situation to Cultural Tip

Activity: Match the Situation to the Best Advice

- A. Entering a temple or mosque
- B. Greeting an elder or host
- C. Eating local food
- D. Taking photos in a sacred place
- E. Visiting someone's home

1. You should bow slightly or use both hands when greeting.
2. Please remove your shoes and cover your head/shoulders.
3. No photos inside — please ask permission outside.
4. Take off your shoes at the door and bring a small gift if possible.
5. It's polite to eat with your right hand and try everything offered.

5. Main Speaking Practice – Role-Play (12–15 minutes)

Activity: Explain Cultural Etiquette to the Tourist!

Work in small groups (3–5 people).

Student A = Tour Guide

Others = Tourists

Tourists:

Choose one situation and ask for advice (act curious or a bit worried):

- "We're visiting a temple tomorrow — what do we need to know?"
- "How should I greet the local family we're meeting?"
- "Is it OK to eat with my hands?"
- "Can I take photos everywhere?"
- "We're going to someone's house — any tips?"

Tour Guide:

Give detailed, respectful advice (1–2 minutes):

- Explain the custom clearly
- Give reasons ("because it shows respect")
- Use "you should/might want to/if you..."
- End positively ("Don't worry — people are very welcoming!")

Example:

"In the temple, you should remove your shoes and cover your shoulders. It's customary because it shows respect for the sacred place. If you forget, don't worry — just do it when you see others." Switch roles so everyone practices giving advice.

Tip: Use the icons/pictures to point while explaining.

6. Final Warm-down (5 minutes)

Activity: One Cultural Tip to Remember

In a circle or quick round.

Each person says **one sentence** about a cultural tip they learned or shared today.

Example:

"I learned that you should remove shoes before entering a home — it's very polite!"

End with: "Thank you for being respectful and open-minded!"

Teacher's Key

Students learn to give clear, respectful, and detailed cultural advice to international tourists — explaining customs, avoiding misunderstandings, and encouraging positive interactions. They use conditionals (if you..., you should...), modals of advice (you should / must / might want to), and polite explanations of differences.

3. Gap-Fill Practice – Giving Cultural Advice

"In this mosque, it is (1) **customary** to (2) **remove** your shoes at the entrance.

You (3) **should** also (4) **cover** your head and shoulders — this shows respect.

If you don't, you (5) **might offend** someone, so please follow these rules.

It's (6) **polite** to speak quietly inside.

If you're not sure about anything, just (7) **ask** me. Don't (8) **worry** — most tourists make small mistakes!"

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Matching Key: A-2, B-1, C-5, D-3, E-4