

Culture

Social situations

1 Reading

What do you do when you are in another country and go to someone's house for dinner?

Read the article and put the names of the countries in the boxes.

Choose from: China, Britain, India, Egypt.

Visiting friends for dinner? Remember these important 'dos' and 'don'ts'.

ALWAYS ...

Bring flowers, chocolates or a bottle of wine as a gift. Use a knife and fork to eat your food. Eat soup with a spoon. Say 'please' and 'thank you'. Put your knife and fork together when you finish eating.

NEVER ...

Talk with your mouth full. Blow your nose on your napkin.

ALWAYS ...

Bring a gift of cakes or chocolates. Take off your shoes at the front door. Eat with your right hand. Have a second helping. When you finish eating, leave a bit of food on your plate.

NEVER ...

Bring alcohol or flowers as a gift. Put salt on your food.

ALWAYS ...

Wrap gifts in red or gold paper. Eat a bit of all the food on the table. Drink your soup from the bowl, don't use a spoon. Make noises when you eat your food – it's OK to burp, slurp and talk with your mouth full! Leave some food on your plate when you finish eating.

NEVER ...

Give flowers, clocks or four of anything as a gift. Wrap your gift in white paper. Leave your chopsticks in your rice. Point the teapot spout at anybody.

ALWAYS ...

Arrive 15–30 minutes late for dinner. Bring a gift of roses or chocolates for the host. Eat with your right hand. Leave some food on your plate when you finish eating. Bring your own friends to someone else's party.

NEVER ...

Wrap your gifts in black or white paper. Give meat as a gift because a lot of people are vegetarians.

2 Comprehension

Are the sentences true or false? Correct the false sentences.

- 1 In three of the countries you eat with your right hand.
- 2 In all of the countries you bring a gift for your host.
- 3 In three of the countries you leave a bit of food on your plate.
- 4 In Britain it is OK to talk with your mouth full.
- 5 In China it is OK to make a lot of noise when you eat.
- 6 Flowers are a good gift for your host in Egypt.
- 7 In India you can invite your friends to someone else's party.
- 8 People in Britain don't say please and thank you.

(page 1 of 2)

culture

Social situations

3 Vocabulary

Match the words to the pictures.



knife and fork gift chopsticks teapot
bowl napkin plate spoon

4 Game

You are going to mime an action that your teacher gives you. All actions have to do with social situations. You are going to play in teams.

Your teacher will ask one person of a team to come to the front of the class. This person will get an action to mime. Mime the action. All teams can guess what he/she is doing. The first team to guess the right action wins a point.

5 Writing

Work in pairs. Write your own list of 'dos' and 'don'ts' for eating dinner at someone's house in your country.