



CULTURAL DETECTIVE – (B2)

Skills: Speaking · Critical Thinking · Vocabulary · Problem Solving

Time: 45–60 min

1 Warm-up Discussion

Talk with your partner or group:

- Have you ever misunderstood a friend from another country? What happened?
- Do people in different countries have different rules for texting, social media, or school?
- What would be difficult if you had to live in another country for a year?

Notes:



2 Cultural Scenarios 

You are “Cultural Detectives.” Read each scenario. Identify the misunderstanding and suggest a solution.

1 – School Rules**! Misunderstanding**

Emma from Germany asks many questions in class. Liam from the UK thinks it’s rude.

 **Cultural Reason:**

 **Solution:**

2 – Birthday Gifts**! Misunderstanding**

Sara from Japan gives a small gift. Her USA friend looks surprised.

 **Cultural Reason:**

 **Solution:**

3 – Eye contact**! Misunderstanding**

Omar from Egypt avoids eye contact with his teacher. Teacher thinks he is disrespectful.

 **Cultural Reason:**

 **Solution:**

4 – Social Media**! Misunderstanding**

Anna from Italy posts many selfies. Her Swedish friend thinks it’s “show-off.”

 **Cultural Reason:**

 **Solution:**

5 – Communication Style**! Misunderstanding**

Leo from Brazil is loud in group work. His Canadian classmate feels shy.

 **Cultural Reason:**

 **Solution:**

3 Role-play 🗣️

Choose one scenario.

- 👤 **A friend from another country**
- 👤 **Local person who misunderstands**

🎯 Goal: solve the misunderstanding politely.

Useful phrases 💬

- “Oops, I didn’t mean that...”
- “In my country, we usually...”
- “Can you tell me why that’s strange?”
- “Oh, I get it now, thanks!”

4 Vocabulary – Cultural Awareness 📖

Match the words to the definitions:

Words

1. etiquette
2. taboo
3. indirect communication
4. stereotype
5. cultural norm
6. gesture

Definitions

- a) a movement of the body that expresses a feeling
- b) a simplified idea about a group of people
- c) behaviour considered normal in a culture
- d) polite behaviour in social situations
- e) speaking in a roundabout way
- f) something socially forbidden

5 Reflection & Discussion 📝

Write short answers:

- Which scenario surprised you most? Why?
- Do you think cultural misunderstandings are easy to avoid?
- How can cultural awareness help you in school or with friends?

📝 **Answers to matching words exercise:** 1d , 2f , 3e , 4b , 5c , 6a