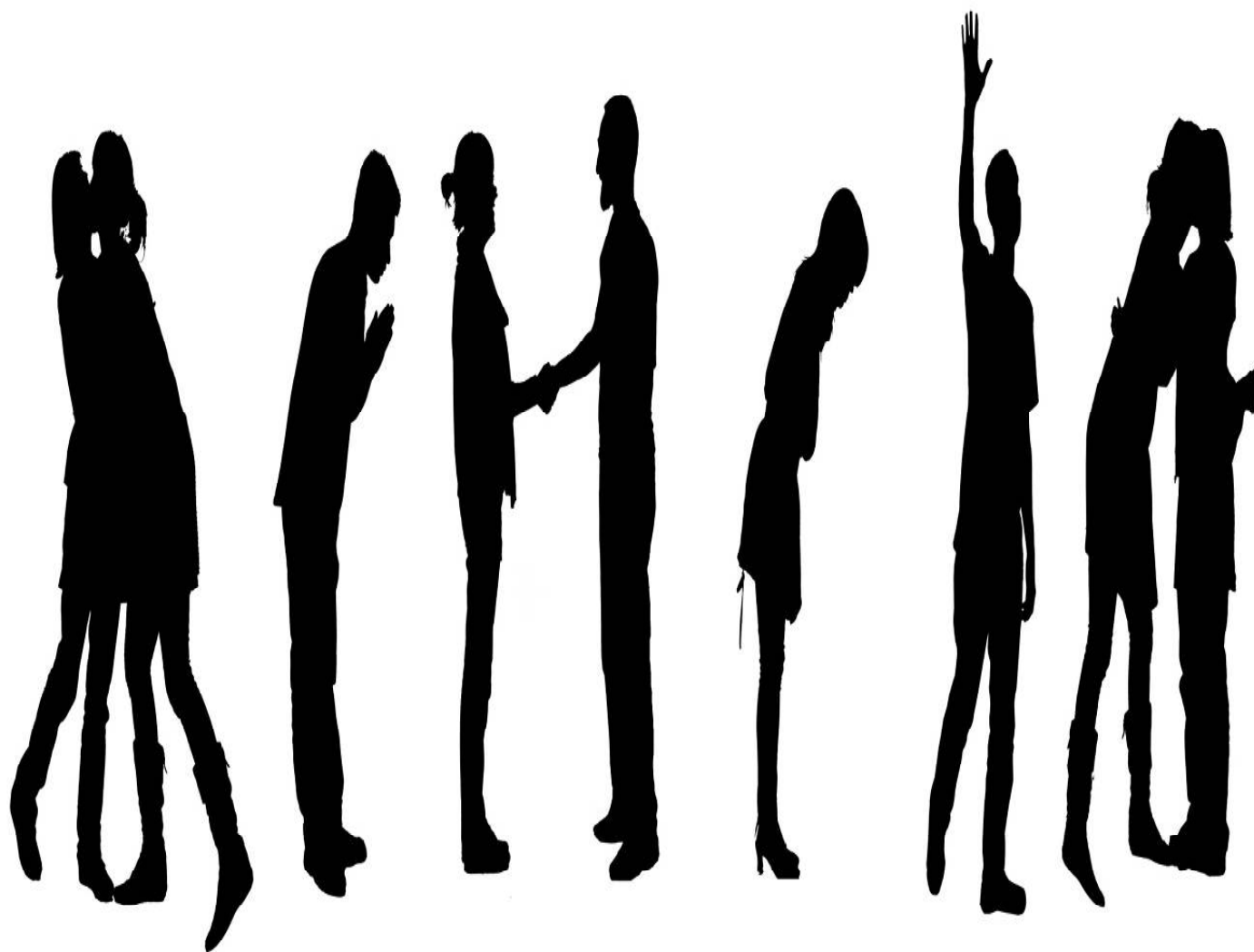




B1

Greetings

VOCABULARY:

- I heard about the job through a **mutual acquaintance**.
- He was a **casual acquaintance** of my family in Japan.
- The president should be **addressed** as 'Mr. President'.
- Mike **complimented** me on my new hairstyle.
- I didn't **recognize** you in your uniform.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you enjoy meeting new people?
2. Which greetings are typical in your country?
3. What are other ways to greet people?
4. What are some good things and things you shouldn't ask people you just met?
5. How important are first impressions to you?
6. What kind of people do you like to meet?
7. What do you do if you forget the name of someone you've just been introduced to?
8. If you want to get to know people at a party would you go first to people of your own age or people of your own sex?
9. What is the favorite topic for new acquaintances in your country?
10. In your country, how do you know if you can trust a person that you meet?



VOCABULARY:

- James is a **mutual friend** of ours.
- Few people smoke in my **circle of friends**.
- You have to meet my **childhood friend**.
- I don't need a **fair-weather** friends.
- One of my **closest friends** is getting married this weekend.

QUESTIONS:

1. Describe one of your closest friends.
2. Do you make friends easily?
3. Do you have any childhood friendships that are still strong today? Tell us about them.
4. Do you have any long distance friends? How do you keep in touch with your long-distance friends?
5. Do you think it is a good idea to borrow money from a friend? Why or why not?
6. Have you made any friends over the Internet? How often do you write to them? Have you ever met them in person?
7. How do you maintain a good friendship?
8. How many people do you consider your "best friends?"
9. What things should friends do and never do?
10. What qualities help you to have good relationships with others?



Beauty and Physical Attractiveness

VOCABULARY:

- She had **plastic surgery** on her nose to straighten it.
- I'm only a few kilos **overweight**, but I just can't seem to lose them.
- I've got to go home and get my **beauty sleep**.
- I can appreciate **inner beauty** more than physical beauty.
- Karl's girlfriend is **drop dead gorgeous**.

QUESTIONS:

1. How important is beauty in your daily life?
2. Have you ever noticed anyone ever feeling pressured to be more beautiful?
3. What do you think of people having cosmetic surgery? How popular is plastic surgery in your country?
4. If you will be given the chance to change something in your body, what would it be? Why?
5. What do you think of the proverb "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder". ?
6. Would you date someone who was not conventionally attractive?
7. How much time do you spent in dressing yourself up?
8. What makes one person more attractive than another?
9. Who do you think is the most beautiful that you have ever seen?
10. What are some of the disadvantages of being beautiful?



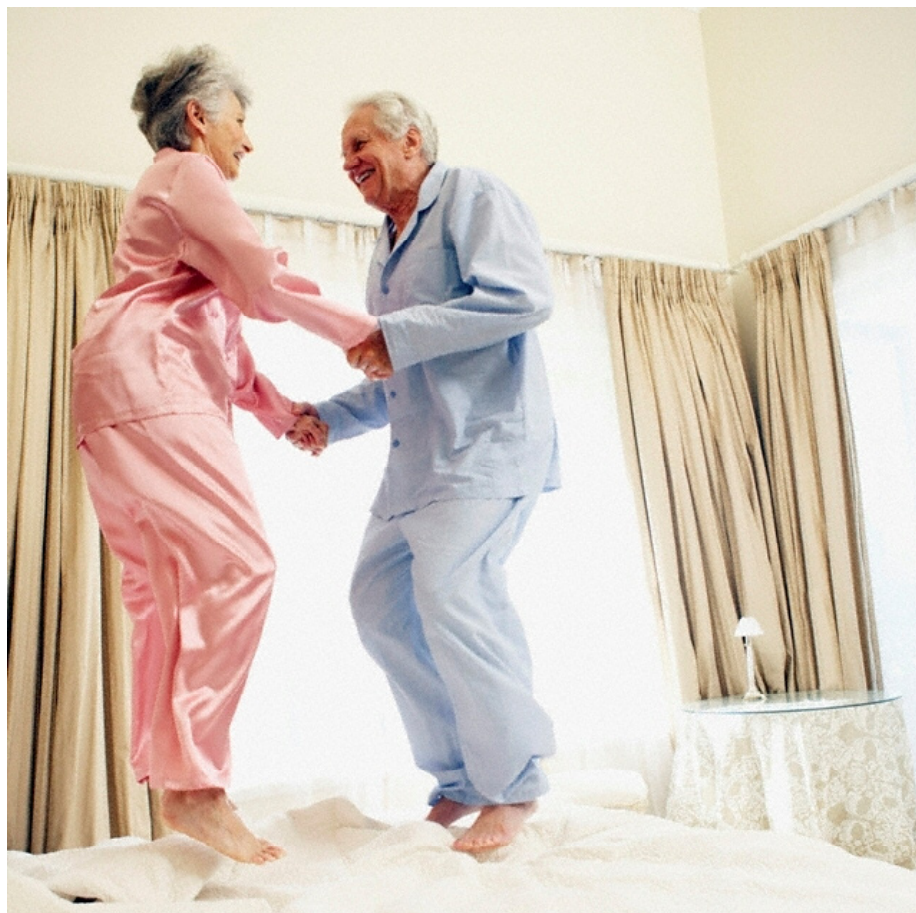
Dating

VOCABULARY:

- Don't be scared. Just **ask her out**.
- I'm going on a **blind date** tonight. I hope he's better than the last one.
- I'm sorry but I have to **break our date**. I need to go out of town on business.
- I think Daniel has a **crush on me**. He keeps following me everywhere.
- My girlfriend **dumped me** because she saw me with another woman.

QUESTIONS:

1. What images spring to mind when you hear the word "dating"?
2. Do you think dating today is any different to dating 50 years ago?
3. At what age did you start to have a crush on someone?
4. From what age is it OK to start dating?
5. What can you remember about your first date?
6. How do you ask someone out?
7. Would you ever go on a blind date?
8. Have you ever broken a date?
9. What is the advantage and disadvantage of dating a drop-dead gorgeous woman.
10. Would you rather dump someone or be dumped by someone?



Marriage

VOCABULARY:

- Where are you going on your *honeymoon*?
- The number of *cohabiting* couples is expected to double by 2012.
- *Divorce rate* is increasing anywhere in the world.
- Should he forgive his *spouse* for dating another girl?
- All schools have a role to play in promoting more understanding of *mixed marriage*.

QUESTIONS:

1. Is marriage important to you? Why or why not?
2. At what age do couples usually get married in your country?
3. Are arranged marriages common in your country? How do you feel about arranged marriages?
4. Is cohabitation acceptable in your country?
5. Marriage life is the best part of a human being's life. Do you agree or disagree?
6. At what age are men and women allowed to get married in your country?
7. Would you marry someone who couldn't speak the same language as you speak?
8. How long is marriage ceremony in your country?



VOCABULARY:

- I was really surprised reading my monthly ***billing statement***.
- Many credit card issuers charge an ***annual fee*** for granting you credit, typically %15 - \$20.
- I only have to pay 1000 pesos as a ***minimum payment*** of my credit.
- If you are the ***principal cardholder*** then you are entitled to get discount prices.

QUESTIONS:

1. How many credit cards do you have?
2. Is using credit card popular in your country?
3. What do you usually use your credit card for?
4. What is the biggest purchase you've made with your card?
5. What do you think are the advantages of using credit card?
6. What do you like least about credit cards?
7. Do you think credit cards can make you buy more things?
8. In what ways are credit cards better than cash?
9. What do you think of the interest charges on credit cards?
10. Do you think we'll still be using credit cards twenty years from now?



VOCABULARY:

- Girls tend to do better academically in *single-sex schools* than in *co-educational* ones.
- Only a few students can afford the *tuition* of \$12 000 a term.
- The teacher will explain the school *curriculum* next month.
- Anyone caught *cheating* will be immediately disqualified from the exam.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you like studying? What was your major?
2. Are most schools coeducational in your country?
3. Have you tried cheating during an exam?
4. What was the most unforgettable experience you had when you were still a student?
5. Do you think it is easier to learn another language as a child or as an adult?
6. Is it difficult for people without a college education to get good jobs where you live?
7. What do you think are the qualities of a good teacher?
8. Do you think teachers are paid enough?
9. Does tuition fee cost too much in University?
10. Should education be free?



Jobs and Occupations

VOCABULARY:

- I'm earning **big bucks** at my new job. I'll finally be able to afford that new car!
- Brad has been doing the same job for thirty years. He's tired of the **daily grind**!
- Carlos got promoted. Now he's **top dog**!
- After weeks of finishing the project, we can go to **happy hour** and get a few drinks!
- Before I got promoted, I was working for **chicken feed**!

QUESTIONS:

1. At what age do people usually begin to work and retire in your country?
2. What are some common occupations in your country? For men and women in your country?
3. Do women usually work after they get married in your country?
4. Do you think it is more important to make a lot of money or to enjoy your job?
5. What are the most popular jobs in your country?
6. What three adjectives would describe yourself as a worker?
7. How long have you been working at your present job? How long do you plan to continue working where you are?
8. Is it common for men and women to have the same jobs in your country?
9. Who among the people you know has the most interesting job? What is it?
10. What job would you most like to do? And one job you wouldn't like to do? Why not?



VOCABULARY:

- You know you are too **stressed out**. Give yourself some time to relax.
- I get a lot of **stress** from my coworkers. They're all very competitive.
- Mark stopped working last year because of work load. He felt happy to **retire**.
- If I feel tired during the day, I take a short **nap**.

QUESTIONS:

1. Have you been under stress recently?
2. What are some of the causes of stress?
3. When you are stressful, how do you feel physically?
4. How do you relieve your stress?
5. Do you think stress is good, useful or necessary?
6. How often do you think you feel too much stress?
7. If you are very busy at work or at school, do you have ways to balance your life?
8. What are the things that can make you feel stress?
9. What are some of the positive ways people deal with stress?
10. What is the most stressful experience you have ever had?



Restaurants And Eating Out

VOCABULARY:

- Let's go out to lunch – **my treat**.
- I love **ready-to-eat foods** such as deli meats and cheeses.
- She can **eat like a horse** and never put on weight.
- She had a **craving** for some chocolate.
- My boyfriend and I always **go Dutch**.

QUESTIONS:

1. How often do you eat out?
2. Where do you usually go when you eat out?
3. Who do you usually go with when you eat out?
4. Do you like western food? Japanese? Thai? Italian?
5. Have you ever ordered food in English? If so, was it easy to do so?
6. What is your favorite appetizer? Main Course? Dessert?
7. Do you ever drink alcoholic beverages when you eat out?
8. Would you send a dish back if it did not taste good or you received the wrong food?
9. Do you ever leave a tip at a restaurant? How much?
10. What's the worst experience you ever had at a restaurant?