

New Elementary 3
Unit 4, Lesson B: Reading
Presented by Mohammad Rajabpur

Culture Shock

A.

I was a student in **India**. One day, I was invited to a local student's home for dinner. I wanted to take something special for her parents, so I made a special dish made of beef from my country. However, when I offered it to them, my friend was quiet, and looked embarrassed. When I asked her why, she explained, and I felt embarrassed, too and apologized.

invite = ask somebody to visit you or go somewhere for a special purpose

A local student invited the foreign student to her home for dinner.

be invited = be asked to visit somebody or go somewhere for a special purpose

The foreign student was invited to a local student's home for dinner.

local = native

so = therefore

dish = food

beef = the meat of a cow or a bull

however = but

embarrassed = ashamed and stressed



Cows and bulls are holy animals for Hindus. They don't eat beef.

B.

Well, I was a student **in the USA**, and one day I crossed the road. Just that! Suddenly I heard a whistle blowing, and a police officer came running after me. He said, "You must wait at a crosswalk and only cross if the 'walk' light is on." He was very angry with me, and I burst into tears!

USA = the United States of America

cross = go from one side to another side

road = way, path

Just that! = Nothing more than that!

suddenly = all of a sudden

hear → heard

come → came

crosswalk = a marked part of a road where people on foot have right of way to cross

crosswalk = a pedestrian crossing; zebra crossing

foot bridge = a bridge for people on foot to cross a street or a road safely

be angry (with/at sb) (for/about sth)

The police officer was angry with him for crossing the street illegally.

illegal = against the law

illegally = in an illegal way

C.

When I was a student in **France**, a local friend invited me to have Sunday lunch at her home. During the meal, my friend said to me, "Put your hands on the table." When I looked, I saw that all her family had their hands on the table, except me. I had no idea why!

during = at the time of

meal = breakfast, lunch or dinner

say → said

except = other than



People in France put their hands on the dining table, but Americans don't.

D.

I spent a year studying in **Germany**. I was shocked the first time I went to a lecture. At the end of the lecture, I stood up to leave but sat down again when all the students started knocking on their desks. I asked another student, "Why are you knocking?" It seemed a strange thing to do.

spend → spent

be shocked = be astonished

lecture = speech

stand up → stood up

sit down → sat down

strange = unusual, weird

E.

I love making my own birthday cards. One day, when I was a student in Korea, I decided to make a card for a local friend. It was in different colors, and I thought it looked lovely, but when I gave it to her, she cried, "Oh no! My name is written in red ink!" When she explained why, I felt terrible.

decide = make a decision

cry = yell, shout

cry = weep = burst into tears

give → gave

ink = the substance inside a pen

*Don't Write
your name in
RED!!!*



Writing someone's name in red ink will cause them to die

Source:

[NewElementary3 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://NewElementary3(anglophone.ir))