Culture and traditions ESL lesson plan (A1)

A1 (beginner) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Grammar focus	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- What is your country famous for?
- What do people eat at a celebration?
- How do people say hello in your country?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
country	an area of land with its own government	What country are you from?
language	the words people use to speak and write	I speak two languages.
nationality	being a citizen of a particular country	What's your nationality?
capital	the most important city of a country	Madrid is the capital of Spain.
flag	a piece of cloth with colors that represents a country	Our flag is red and white.
people	men, women and children	The people here are very friendly.
food	things you eat	I love Mexican food.
dish	food prepared in a particular way	Paella is a typical Spanish dish.
music	sounds made by voices or instruments	I like traditional Irish music.
dance	a series of steps you do to music	Tango is a famous dance from Argentina.

Grammar focus (10 min): Present simple: I work, she works

Lily shares a flat with Sam. Sam is a baker, so their days are very different. Lily says: “I get up at seven and I start work at nine. Sam gets up at three! He starts work at four, and he finishes at midday.” By the end of this lesson you can describe routines and facts about you and about other people.

Form	Pattern	Example
I · you · we · they	base form	I start at nine.
He · she · it	verb + s	He starts at four.
Spelling	-es · -ies · has	goes · finishes · studies · has
When	at · on · every	at six · on Sundays · every day

Watch for: ~~Sam work in a bakery.~~ → **Sam works in a bakery.**. Sam = he: works.

Speaking (15 min): A guide for a new neighbour

A foreign family has just moved in next door. The learner prepares five things they should know to feel at home: one about greetings, one about food, one about time, one about noise and one free choice.

Useful language

- It’s common to… / It’s considered rude to…
- We tend to… / People usually…
- In my culture… whereas in…
- You’re supposed to… / You’re not supposed to…
- a custom · a habit · a belief · a superstition
- It dates back to…

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about culture and traditions using at least six words from the lesson and the grammar point.
- Self-study: the A1 culture and traditions vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 21 words.

Culture and traditions (A1)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

festival · speak · typical · same · different · famous · visit · holiday

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. We celebrate on the _____ day.
2. Do you _____ French?
3. It's a national _____ today.
4. The city is _____ for its food.
5. Our customs are very _____.
6. I want to _____ India.
7. There's a big _____ in summer.
8. What's a _____ breakfast in your country?

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. What time do people usually have dinner?
2. What is a traditional song or dance?
3. What languages do people speak in your country?
4. What should a visitor see first?
5. What is a typical present from your country?

Write

Write 80–120 words about culture and traditions. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 same · 2 speak · 3 holiday · 4 famous · 5 different · 6 visit · 7 festival · 8 typical