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SOCIAL STUDIES



3

GRADE



Student Book 3

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SOCIAL STUDIES

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Unit One

Living Together

Warm Up!!!

What is culture?

What gives you your identity?

What is the spoken language in your country?

What is the traditional dish in your country?



Vocabulary



-  Culture
-  Element of a culture
-  Values
-  Norms
-  Artifacts
-  Diversity
-  Prejudice



Lesson 1: Culture



? What is Culture?

Culture is the way of life shared by a group of people. It is a shared pattern of behaviors, customs and ideas.

Culture gives us our identity. It is passed on to the next generation by learning. It includes all aspects of people's life such as language, religion, cuisine, arts, social habits and music.



Language is often considered as the most important element of a culture, that is when you share a language with others, you can communicate and understand their culture.



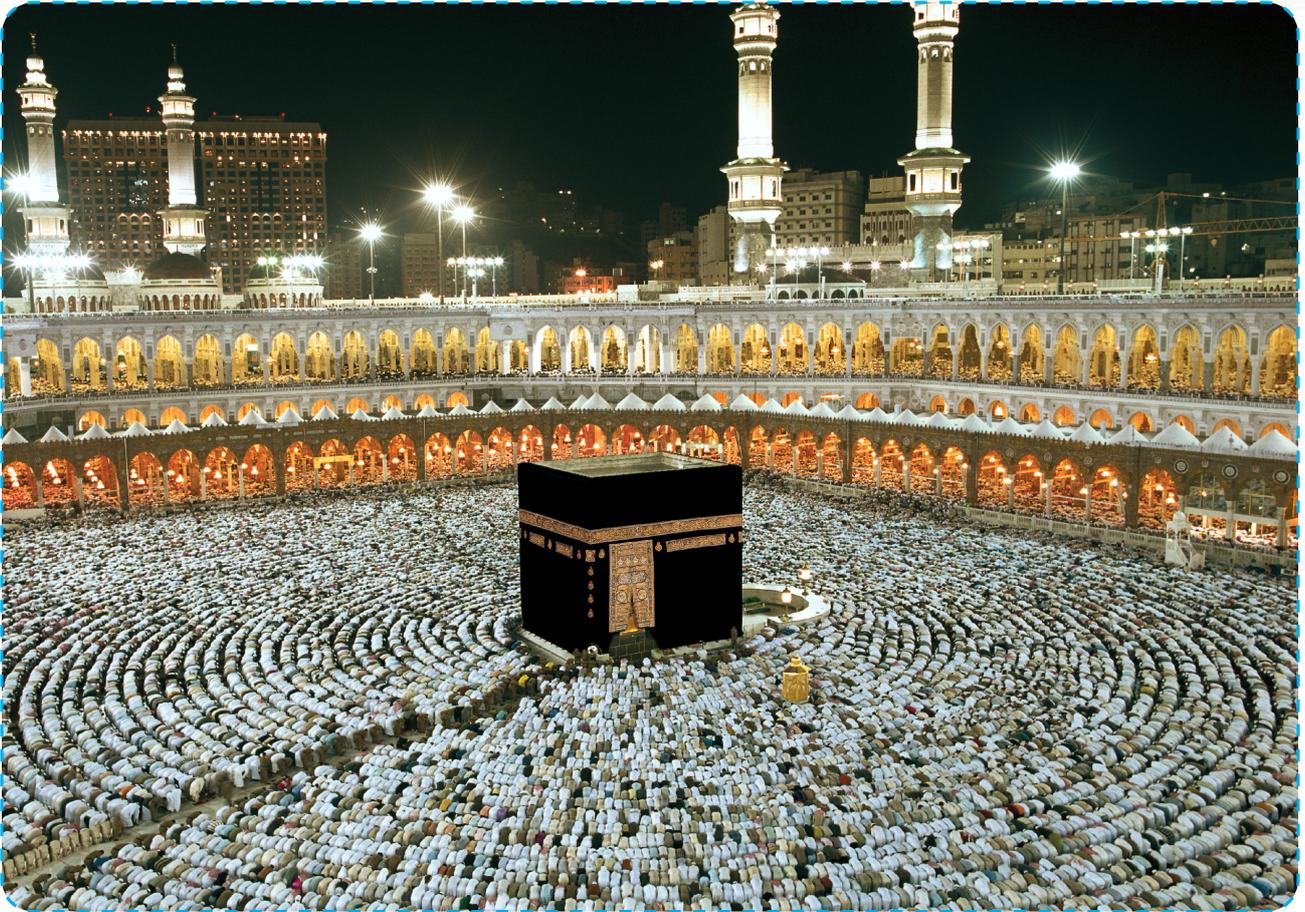
I'm Tai from China.
I speak Chinese which
is part of the Chinese
culture.



I'm Khaled from the
United Arab Emirates.
I speak Arabic which is
part of the Arab culture.



Besides language, religion is a powerful cultural element. Religious beliefs often influence people's decisions. Religion helps determine the behavior of people's life. The culture of communities is shaped by their religion.



Friday is a holiday where Muslims go to mosques for Friday prayers. Muslims rest on this day and spend time with their families.





Values and norms

Values are the principles or standards of behaviour of what is important in life. Norms consist of expectations of how people will behave in various situations.

 Mention some of the values in your community.

Think and discuss



 What are the elements of culture?



Lesson 2: The elements of culture



? What is Culture?

Have you ever wondered why most people who live in a certain country think and behave in similar ways? And why people from one country or culture are so different from people of another culture?

There are three main elements of culture:

1. **Values:** They are the accepted standards of an individual or group such as honesty and equality.



2. Norms: They refer to attitudes or behaviors that are considered normal or typical within the same group.

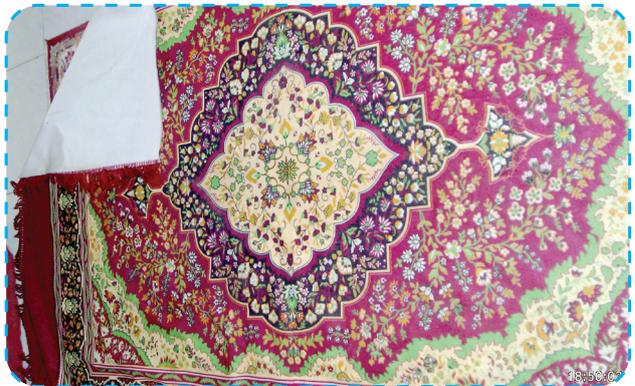
Examples of norms from around the world:

- Arab people will not drink your coffee until you answer the request they come for.
- The British people greet strangers with a smile with their “hello”, while Russians consider it impolite to smile at strangers as it might be interpreted as if they are laughing at them.
- In the USA, people tend to respect each other’s personal space.
- In China, it is impolite to say hello to everyone in public.
- In Japan, people shake hands with foreigners and bow in front of each other.





3. Artifacts: They are products of people's art made of the historical or cultural interests.





Think and discuss



 Mention some values and norms in your society.

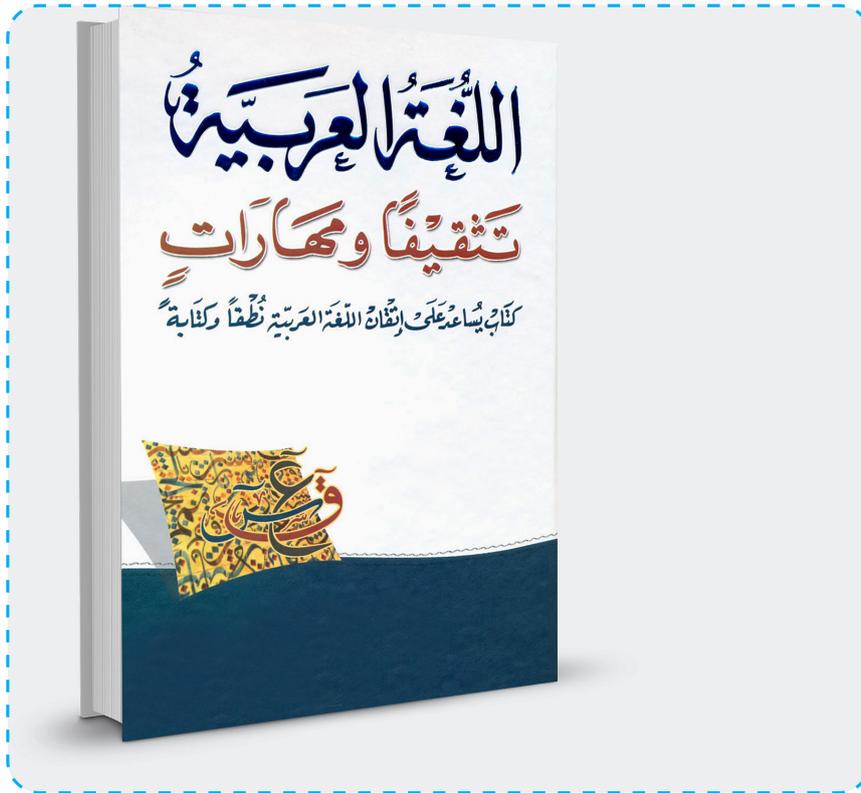


Lesson 3: Our great culture



? What do you know about the Arab culture?

The Arab culture is one of the most important cultures in the world. It is as old as time and history. The Arab culture consists of two main elements: the Arabic language and Islam.



? How many countries use the Arabic language as their official language?



The Arabic language enriches the Arabic literature. It is the language of the Koran; it is the holy book which was revealed to the prophet Mohammed - Peace be upon him - to guide all people.

The Arabic culture is a rich one which has been shaped by the Islamic beliefs.



The majority of the Arabs practise Islam strictly. For example, praying five times a day is obligatory. Also, they fast the holy month of Ramadan and they go to Hajj if possible.

In the holy month of Ramadan, Muslims fast from dawn until sunset.



Each night at sunset, families gather to celebrate breaking of the fast (Iftar).



Arab Muslims, wait for the month of Ramadan for the whole year as they miss it a lot and greet it happily.

One of the customs and traditions in this holy month is the presence of the “Al Musaharati” who wakes up the sleeping people before dawn for their last meal (Sohour) to be eaten for another fasting day.

Families prepare delicious desserts to enjoy eating them in the evenings after (Iftar).



Each country has its own dishes and desserts which they are famous for.

 What are the most popular desserts in your country that are prepared in Ramadan?

Eid Mubarak

Eid is the biggest holiday celebration in the Arabic culture and the Islamic world. Arabs and Muslims celebrate every year two feasts:

Eid Al-Fitar, which comes after the end of the holy month of Ramadan and the second is Eid Al-Adha. Family members are visited and usually young people go to the elderly's house as a sign of respect. Children are given gifts, candies and sometimes cash money to make them enjoy this special occasion of the year.

 How do you celebrate the feasts in your country?

Think and discuss



 Talk about other things in the Arab culture such as clothes and folklore.



Lesson 4: Culture diversity



? What is the importance of cultural diversity?

Diversity can be defined as people coming together from different races, nationalities and religions to form a group or a community.



We all have the same general structure: two legs, two arms, two eyes, etc. But we all look different from each other. each one of us is unique in this world.



? What makes you different from other children?

? How boring would it be if everyone looked the same?

Diversity is not just about our bodies.

Study the following pictures to know more about the world's diversity.



The place where we are born can make a great deal of diversity, too. There are differences in religions, languages, beliefs, cultural traditions and types of houses.

Name other things people may differ in.

 Why does diversity exist?

In the past, people were born, lived and died in the same country. There was no diversity among the population. While now there is a great deal of diversity all around us. This is due to people's movement between places continuously, which leads to the transfer of different cultures across countries.

In one country you can see different kinds of cultures, religions, foods and arts.



For example, you would go to a nearby restaurant and find people from different cultures eating different types of food.



Why is diversity important?

The great thing about diversity is that it makes the world an interesting place to live in.

People have many differences such as ethnicity, religion, race and gender. Therefore, when people move from other countries to yours, this will bring diversity among the population which will lead to:

- accepting others.
- learning from their experiences.
- expanding the creativity in your country.
- learning about other cultures, norms, beliefs and ideas.

And if we don't acknowledge these differences, prejudice and hatred will grow.

Think and discuss



Is diversity important in societies? Why?



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