

The first section of this book looks at the features that contribute to cultures. You may want to use these activities to make students aware of these aspects of culture. The rest of the book is organised by region. Within each region, activities address certain key topics. To help you choose activities by topic, each activity title includes an icon. Here is a key to the topics:



transmission of culture – proverbs, myths, customs, etc



keeping time – calendars, festivals, days of remembrance



contributions to world culture – religion, food, cultural heritage sites, etc



language and literature



important historical events



people of note



the arts

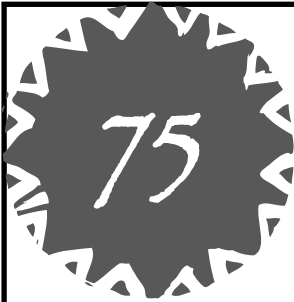


how physical geography affects culture



cultures in contact, in conflict, and in the process of change

However you choose to use them, *Daily Warm-Ups* are a convenient and useful supplement to your regular lesson plans. Make every minute of your class time count!



## Cambodia: What Is It?

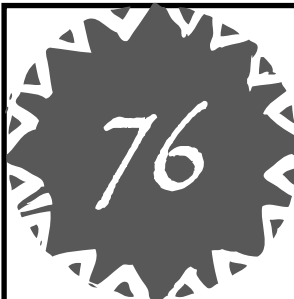
Most countries have landmarks. They can be buildings or natural features. They are sites that people around the world identify with that country.

This is a description of a Cambodian landmark. Read the description. Then name the landmark being described.

*Built by King Suryavarman in the twelfth century C.E., this temple complex was designed as a stone reflection of the cosmic universe. The great pyramid of stone at its centre represents the magic mountain, Mount Meru. The moat and causeways represent the oceans and plains around the mountain. Its soaring towers and miles of courtyards and avenues are decorated with carvings. These carvings tell the stories of Hindu mythology. The largest religious monument in the world, it is also an architectural marvel.*

What is it?

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## Words from Malay

These words came into English from languages spoken in Southeast Asia. Match each word in the box with its meaning in English below.

<i>amok</i>	<i>batik</i>	<i>gecko</i>
<i>bamboo</i>	<i>cockatoo</i>	<i>gong</i>
<i>bantam</i>	<i>compound</i>	<i>sarong</i>

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. resist-printed fabric
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. bell that is struck with a padded hammer
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. large crested parrot
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. hollow, woody stem used for building and for furniture
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. enclosure
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. long strip of cloth used as a loose garment
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. small, combative person
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. tropical lizard
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. out of control

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## Chinese Proverbs

Many cultures use proverbs to teach values and ethics. You may have heard the proverb, “A penny saved is a penny earned.” This is a way of saying that being thrifty is a good thing. Other virtues may also be found in proverbs: honesty, respect for parents, hard work and so on.



Each Chinese proverb below addresses one of the virtues in the box. Read each proverb carefully. Then write the letter of the virtue that best matches the proverb on the line provided.

a. education   b. forethought   c. gratitude   d. hard work   e. honesty

- \_\_ 1. *Talk does not cook rice.*
- \_\_ 2. *Clear conscience never fears midnight knocking.*
- \_\_ 3. *Forget injuries; never forget kindnesses.*
- \_\_ 4. *A sly rabbit will have three openings to its den.*
- \_\_ 5. *The man who waits for roast duck to fly into his mouth must wait a long time.*
- \_\_ 6. *Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.*
- \_\_ 7. *Once on a tiger’s back, it is hard to alight.*

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## Korean Proverbs

Like those of other cultures, Korean proverbs reflect the customs and values of the people. For example, one proverb says, “After losing a cow, one repairs the barn.” This means that it’s too late to regret a mistake after we’ve made it. If we think first, we can avoid misfortunes.



Here are some Korean proverbs. Read them carefully. Then choose one proverb and explain what it means.

- 1. *An empty cart rattles loudly.*
- 2. *Even if you know the way, ask one more time.*
- 3. *One can build a mountain by collecting specks of dust.*
- 4. *The words you speak during the day are heard by birds, and the words you speak at night are heard by mice.*
- 5. *When whales fight, shrimps’ backs are broken.*
- 6. *Even if the sky falls on you, there is a hole from which you can escape.*

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## Italy: What Is It?

Most countries have landmarks. They can be buildings or natural features. They are sites that people around the world identify with that country.

This is a description of an Italian landmark. Read the description. Then name the landmark being described.

*This tower, built of marble blocks, was designed to be the bell tower of a cathedral. Construction began in 1173 and continued for about two hundred years. Long before it was finished, workers noticed that the tower's weight was making it sink into the soil. Because the soil on one side was softer than on the other, one side sank deeper than the other – about 2 metres deeper. This gave the cylindrical tower a distinct tilt. And over the last 800 years, the tilt has only gotten worse.*

*The finished tower is 56 metres high, and about 20 metres around. Spiral stairs within the cylindrical body give access to the arcaded upper stories and the tower's top. In recent years, engineers have gone into the subsoil around the tower to reduce the tilt, ensuring that the tower will stay standing. But they were careful not to reduce it so much that the tower stands up straight. After all, that gravity-defying tilt gives the tower much of its appeal.*

What is it?

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## European English

The English language has always borrowed from other languages. All the words below have been borrowed from other European languages. The source languages are listed in the box. Match each word with the correct source language.

a. Dutch    b. French    c. German    d. Italian    e. Spanish

___ <i>café</i>	___ <i>delicatessen</i>	___ <i>kindergarten</i>
___ <i>canyon</i>	___ <i>easel</i>	___ <i>mosquito</i>
___ <i>cookie</i>	___ <i>garage</i>	___ <i>piano</i>
___ <i>confetti</i>	___ <i>guitar</i>	___ <i>regime</i>
___ <i>cruise</i>	___ <i>hamburger</i>	___ <i>spaghetti</i>

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## Answer Key

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117. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* The moon is seen at a different angle, depending on the viewer's location. The same lunar features create different illusions in different places.
118. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* In China, since cities are so densely populated, increased car ownership will create huge changes in cities, including increased congestion, pollution, traffic jams, parking problems and more accidents between cars and bikes. Also, the move from an active form of transportation (bikes) to a passive form (cars) will have a negative effect on health. Globally, an increase in car ownership in China will lead to increased global pollution and greenhouse gases. With a population of more than a billion, if China were to reach private ownership levels of even one car for every ten people (the current global average, which includes developing nations), that would be 126 million cars, a huge increase. It would also mean a huge increase in per-person consumption of petrol products. Currently, the average American consumes 23 barrels of oil a year; the average Chinese consumes  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a barrel. Increasing Chinese oil consumption will mean a huge drain on global petroleum resources.
119. 1. a; 2. d; 3. b; 4. d; 5. e; 6. f; 7. e; 8. c
120. Answers will vary. *Sample answers:* 1. Don't give advice to someone who knows more about a subject than you do. 2. If you plan to cause trouble for someone else, your bad deed will inevitably have negative consequences for you. 3. People should focus on their own projects and occupations, and not give advice about things they don't have training in. 4. You shouldn't spend more than you can afford. 5. Don't worry about unimportant things; don't exaggerate small problems.
121. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* You may be weak alone, but with others, you can withstand even a powerful enemy.
122. Answers will vary. Problems include the fact that most adult Azerbaijanis are familiar only with the Cyrillic alphabet, which was in use for seventy years. Only a few, much older adults learned the Latin alphabet between 1928 and 1938. All printing presses, publishers, newspapers and textbooks used Cyrillic. The transition was begun with Latin-alphabet textbooks for year ones. Each year, the textbooks for the next year level are printed in the Latin alphabet. Thus, students in older years use textbooks printed in Cyrillic, while those in lower years use only Latin. In 1992, TV stations began using the Latin alphabet for written material on their broadcasts, such as titles. In 1997, newspapers began to print presidential decrees and parliamentary news in Latin. More books are being published in Latin, though Cyrillic is still the primary alphabet of publishing. Street signs, advertising and such things as labels on canned food are increasingly being written in the Latin alphabet.
123. Answers will vary.
124. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* If a mosquito had just had a meal before it was trapped, the blood could have DNA from the animal the mosquito dined on.
125. St Basil's Cathedral
126. Count Leo Tolstoy
127. Answers will vary. Many students will realise that the Internet is today's version of *samizdat*, a *samizdat* that no government can truly control.
128. *Note:* You may want to explain to students that these words have been transliterated from Cyrillic script.  
1. jazz; 2. jeans; 3. menu; 4. method; 5. office; 6. officer; 7. parachute; 8. pyjamas; 9. theatre; 10. cylinder; 11. jacket; 12. jury
129. 1. d; 2. c; 3. e; 4. b; 5. a
130. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* Yeltsin was one of the architects of the breakup of the Soviet Union. His attempts to speed the pace of reform in the USSR led to the collapse of the union. Yeltsin hoped this would bring improvements to the lives of Russian residents. However, he wasn't so concerned with freedom for non-Russian members of the USSR; in December 1994, he sent Russian troops into the Muslim minority region of Chechnya to put down a separatist rebellion.
131. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* Vladimir Lenin, leader who overthrew the Russian government to found a Communist state; Joseph Stalin, Lenin's ruthless successor; Nikita Khrushchev, one of Stalin's top advisors and his successor; Leonid Brezhnev, premier of the USSR who led invasions of Czechoslovakia (1968) and Afghanistan (1977); Mikhail Gorbachev, last head of the Soviet Union whose policies of *glasnost* and *perestroika* led to the dismantling of the USSR; Boris Yeltsin, first president of Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union.
132. *Note:* You may want to tell students that *lubki* is the plural form of the word; *lubok* is the singular. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* Cartoons (especially political cartoons), comic books and caricatures all share many of these characteristics: clear images, bright colours, often including captions, used to tell stories or make fun of political figures.
133. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* Uzbekistan was the crossroads for trade caravan routes between the Middle East and both China and India. Arab merchants carried silk from China and spices from India, then sold them in Europe. Only in the fifteenth century, when European explorers found a sea route to China and India, did the importance of the Silk Route wane.
134. Answers will vary. *Sample answer:* Although Russia had an extensive coastline, all of Russia's ports were far from Europe. Most of them were so far north they could not be used during the winter. By gaining access to the Baltic Sea, Peter gained access to European trade, thus furthering his goal of making Russia a major European power.