# Cultural Lesson on Korea

**Grade Level:** Upper Elementary/Middle School  
**Subject:** ESL  
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## Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content: Social Studies</th>
<th>English Language Proficiency Standards</th>
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<td>Compare customs in Korea to their native country or to the United States.</td>
<td>Students will read, write, listen, and speak for varied purposes.</td>
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## Essential Question

- What is a custom?
- How are your customs different from someone in South Korea?

## Vocabulary

- Custom
- Korea

## Materials Needed

- Overhead (or board) with a web
- Cards with pictures or statements either true/false about Korea
- Quick-write for each student
- What do you think paper for each student
- Paper with lists of customs
- Map of Korea

## Introduction

- When students enter the room, have them fill in the WHAT DO YOU THINK? Paper.
- Tell them that today we are going to talk about customs.
- Write the word custom on the board in the middle of the web (or overhead, PowerPoint). When we talk about customs what are some of the things we talk about? Add appropriate comments to the web.
- Some questions if no one responds:
  - What do you do when you meet new people?
  - How do you talk to your mom, your friend, your teacher?
  - How do you accept a gift from someone?
  - How do you act/walk on the street?
  - What do you do at a funeral, wedding?
  - What is considered rude when you are eating?
  - What is considered polite when you are eating?
  - What do you say if you have to go to the bathroom? Cough? Blow your nose?

## Presentation

- We are going to be reading a story about someone from South Korea. (Show a map) In order to understand the story, you need to understand that there are some differences in their culture.
- The teacher will pass out one card to each student. The card will have a picture or words depending upon reading ability. Students are told to act out their card. After they act it out, the class will say what the action was...the teacher will restate or correct the class. The student will put the card around the map of Korea.

## Practice and Application

- Each group of 2-3 students will be given a worksheet with various “custom” statements from around the world. Students will cut them out. They will paste them onto another paper. The other paper will be set up into two columns. One column “South Korea”. The other column “Not a custom of South Korea.”

## Review and Assessment

- Write two things in each of the categories in the Venn Diagram comparing you to someone from South Korea. (If someone is from South Korea, they can compare to someone from America.)
QUICK-WRITE
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Why is it important to know about people in other countries?

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________________________________________________________________________

What are some things that your family does differently than other families in the United States? Think about holidays, birthdays, how you speak to people, what you do in different situations....

________________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________________
LIST OF KOREAN CUSTOMS

LIST OF “NON”-KOREAN CUSTOMS