

Unit 15

Korean Customs¹

Korean Customs เป็นเรื่องที่ ANN O. STRAUCH แห่ง El Camino College adapted from a Composition by Chris Lee

READING 1

Korean Customs เป็นเรื่องเกี่ยวกับขนบธรรมเนียมประเพณีและวัฒนธรรมของชาวเกาหลี เรื่องนี้มีจุดมุ่งหมายเพื่อต้องการให้นักศึกษาได้เรียนรู้วัฒนธรรมของประเทศเพื่อนบ้านในแถบเอเชียด้วยกัน นักศึกษาควรอ่านให้เข้าใจและนำสิ่งที่อ่านมาคิดเปรียบเทียบกับขนบธรรมเนียมประเพณีและวัฒนธรรมของไทย ว่ามีความเหมือนกันและแตกต่างกันอย่างไร ความรู้ความเข้าใจในขนบธรรมเนียมประเพณีของต่างชาตินับว่าเป็นสิ่งที่สำคัญอย่างหนึ่งสามารถช่วยให้เราเรียนรู้กันและกันและนำไปสู่ความเข้าใจที่ดีต่อกันได้

Korean Customs

Several customs from my culture might seem odd to a foreigner. First, when Koreans enter the house, they take off their shoes. According to my grandmother, this is because a long time ago, our houses were very different from

¹ Strauch, Ann O. *Bridges To Academic Writing*. Cambridge University Press, 1988,

modern houses. In ancient Korea, people didn't sleep on raised beds, so they had to keep the floor very clean.

Second, in Korea some people, especially the older generation, like to eat dog meat. Most foreigners don't understand this custom. They say it's "disgusting" because "dog is man's best friend," but horses are also good friends to humans, and Europeans eat their meat. What's the difference?

Last, if students do something wrong, the teacher can physically punish them. It's very common and happens frequently. A few years ago an American was caned in Singapore because he painted graffiti on walls and cars. The American networks broadcast it as if it were important news. If it had happened to a Korean, it wouldn't have become big news in Korea.

There's no point in comparing one culture to another to determine which one is right or better. The only way to look at the differences is to learn about them and respect them.

Word Study

disgusting (adj.)	= full of disgust, extremely unpleasant
cane (v)	= to hit with cane
graffiti (n pl.)	= inscriptions, or something written informally
determine (v)	= decide. reach a decision
respect (v)	= hold in high regard, feel or show honor

Comprehension Questions

Answer the questions in your own words.

1. In your opinion, which of the customs that Chris explained is the most interesting? Why? _____

2. Is there any custom like Thai's custom? Explain _____

3. Do you agree with Chris's conclusion ? Explain _____

4. Name additional customs that might seem odd to people who are not from the same culture. _____

Grammar Point

Conditional Perfect Clause or If clause (3)

If + had + V3, Subj + would have + V3

การใช้ประโยคเงื่อนไขชนิดที่3 คือการแสดงถึงสิ่งที่ตรงข้ามกับความจริงที่เกิดในอดีต เป็นการสมมติหรือพูดถึงในสิ่งที่ “เป็นไปได้” เหมือนกับการพูดในภาษาไทยคือ “ถ้ารู้แบบนี้ ฉันก็จะ...” ซึ่งในความเป็นจริงแล้วเราไม่รู้มาก่อนเลย การสมมติในกรณีดังกล่าวนี้ นักศึกษาพึงระวังการใช้ tenses ให้ถูกต้องตามโครงสร้างที่แสดงข้างต้น ประโยคที่ปรากฏในเรื่องที่อ่านคือ

If it had happened to a Korean, It wouldn't have become big news in Korea. ซึ่งหมายความว่า “ถ้าหากเรื่องนี้เกิดขึ้นกับคนเกาหลี รับรองได้ว่ามันจะไม่กลายเป็นเรื่องใหญ่โตที่สำคัญอะไรเลย” (ความจริงก็คือ เรื่องนี้เกิดกับคนอเมริกัน มันจึงกลายเป็นเรื่องใหญ่โต มีคนสนใจมากมาย) สิ่งนี้ย่อมแสดงให้เห็นว่าวัฒนธรรมและประเพณีที่แตกต่างกันนั่นเองเพื่อให้นักศึกษาเข้าใจมากขึ้น ขอให้ฝึกทำแบบฝึกหัดต่อไปนี้

Activity 1

Rewrite the sentences so that they begin with “If”.

Example: In the sixteenth century, traveling was slow and difficult, so people did not enjoy going on long journeys.

- *If, in the sixteenth century, traveling had not been slow and difficult, people would have enjoyed going on long journeys.*

1. It rained, so we did not go into the country.

2. You did not take my advice so you lost all your money.

3. You did not help me, so I did not finish the work.

4. He lost all his money, so he could not buy a new car.

5. You did not work hard, so you did not do well in the examination.

6. My brother was ill, so he could not go to Italy with me.

7. There were no airlines fifty years ago, so travellers could not cross the Atlantic in twelve hours.

8. The boy did not look both ways before he crossed the road, so he was knocked down and killed.

9. They spent six months in Spain, so they learnt to speak Spanish well.

10. Your parents did too much for you, so you did nothing for yourself.

READING 2

The Power of Suggestion'

Hypnotism is not magic, nor should it be used as a party trick. Professional hypnotists are trained psychologists, and, in their hands, hypnotism is a valuable aid in many kinds of medical treatment. Dentists have used it to do painless work. Doctors have used it to erase the pains of certain operations and to treat people who are mentally ill.

Hypnosis is a sleeplike state brought on by the suggestion and motions of another person. While in this state, the hypnotized person acts only at the suggestion of the hypnotist. Even, so, hypnotists believe that hypnotized people will not do under hypnosis those things they would not do under their own power. For instance, a hypnotized person who has firm beliefs about right and wrong will not take part in a crime, no matter how strong the suggestion may be.

The fact that a person can be hypnotized is not a sign of a weak will. Most people can be brought under the spell of hypnotism if they wish it. In most cases, only a willing person can be hypnotized.

Although hypnotism seems mysterious, no supernatural powers are needed by the hypnotist. But competence and integrity are necessary, and a person hypnotized by someone other than an expert may suffer nervous shock from being improperly awakened.

2 Anderson, Donald G. *New Practice Readers* McGraw Hill Publisher, Singapore, 1988 PP. 172-173

Word Study

hypnosis (n)	= a state of unconsciousness in which a person seems to be asleep but can still see, hear, or respond to things said to him; a sleeplike condition
hypnotism (n)	= the practice of hypnotizing people; the act of inducing people
hypnotist (n)	= a person who induces hypnosis
hypnotize(v)	= to put someone into a state of unconsciousness
erase (v)	= to remove something
mental (adj.)	= of for the mind
suggestion (n)	= the inducing an idea to the mind
competence (n)	= the ability to do something well/ effectively
will (n)	= the power of making a decision; determination
spell (n)	= a word or form of words supposed to have some magic
integrity(n)	= honesty
nervous (adj.)	= having a disordered state of mind; excited
awaken (v)	= to wake up; rouse
improperly (adv.)	= incorrectly; unsuitably

Vocabulary Exercise

Draw a line under the right answer or fill in the blank.

1. One who hypnotizes is called a hypnosis *hypnotism* *hypnotist.*
2. Putting a thought in someone's mind is _____
suggestion *psychology* *supernatural*
3. One who studied behavior is *psychologist* *hypnotist* *awakener*
4. What word means "honesty" ? *competence* *improperly* *integrity*
5. Competence is the opposite of *integrity* *capability* *unfitness*
6. What word means "easily excited"? _____

Comprehension Questions

Mark the right answer or fill in the blank.

1. While not directly stated, it may be inferred from the article that
 - a. hypnosis can be dangerous if it is misused.
 - b. a hypnotized person cannot feel any pain.
 - c. hypnosis can cure most diseases.
 - d. hypnosis is only useful as an amusing game.
2. This article as a whole tells us about _____.
 - a. a party trick
 - b. a sleeplike state called hypnosis
 - c. magic
 - d. people who are mentally ill
3. In most cases, only a person who wishes it can be hypnotized.
Yes No Does not say

4. The word *it* in the third sentence refers to what word? _____

5. Which two sentences are NOT true?

- a. Hypnotism is a magic trick.
- b. Hypnotism is a method of treating people who are ill.
- c. Some doctors and dentists use hypnotism on their patients.
- d. A hypnotized person follows the suggestions of hypnotist.
- e. Hypnotized people can be made to do anything, even something they would not do if they were awake.

6. What word in the last paragraph, last sentence, means about the same as *honesty*? _____

Grammar Point

Most / Most of

Most + N (PI) + กริยา (พหูพจน์) / Most of + the + N (PI) + กริยาพหูพจน์

Most + N (นับไม่ได้) + V (เอกพจน์) / Most of + the + N (นับไม่ได้) + V (เอกพจน์)

Example:

Most people work hard. }
Most of the people work hard. }

Most boys like to play football. }
Most of the boys like to play football. }

Most information was true.

Most of the information was true.

Activity 1

Rewrite the following sentences as in the examples above.

1. My father spent most time in Singapore.

2. Most cars in Thailand are Japanese's.

3. Most students come to school early.

4. Most results in last term's exam were bad.

5. Most money is spent on food and clothing.

*Miscellany*³

A. Here are some examples of items from an intelligence test, taken from Know Your Own I.Q., by *H.J. Eysenck* (Penguin Books, 1990).

1. Insert the missing letter

E H L O S _____

2. Insert the word that can be prefixed by any of the letters on the left.

P _____

FL _____

C _____

W _____

CL _____

3. Underline the word in the bottom line that goes with the three at the top.

JACKET

BLOOD

GUARD

tide

life

time bird

fear ape

4. Insert the next letter in the series.

A D A E A G A I A M A _____

3 Heaton, & Dunmore *Topics in English: A Reading Skills Course 2*, Longman Asia Limited 1994, P. 53

B Complete the crossword. Use the following clues to help you

Clues

Across

1. curriculum vitae

2. letter of _____

3. job which is advertised

4. person who uses a typewriter

5. need

6. machine which can be used for
storing information and word
processing

7. include in an envelope
skills for a job

Down

1. proof of abilities and skills which
make a person suitable for a
particular job

2. give work to

3. person who is being taught the skills for a job

4. person who works in an office keeping
records, etc.

5. I would like to apply for the _____
of ...

6. work

