



VOCABULARY BANK

Culture and Traditions

Culture and Traditions | Bank 2: languages, diversity and globalisation | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
learn a language	☐	☐	☐
bilingual	☐	☐	☐
cultural exchange	☐	☐	☐
globalisation	☐	☐	☐
international community	☐	☐	☐
communicate across cultures	☐	☐	☐
cultural difference	☐	☐	☐
shared values	☐	☐	☐
preserve culture	☐	☐	☐
respect diversity	☐	☐	☐
sense of identity	☐	☐	☐
fit in	☐	☐	☐

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
Language	learn a language, bilingual, communicate across cultures, translation, local language, international communication
Culture and change	cultural exchange, globalisation, international community, cultural difference, shared values, modern lifestyle
Identity	preserve culture, respect diversity, sense of identity, fit in, stand out, cultural heritage
Opinion chunks	Learning a language can..., Globalisation means that..., It is important to preserve..., People may feel..., Different cultures can share...

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

Word or phrase	Meaning
1. bilingual	a. the way countries and cultures become more connected
2. cultural exchange	b. protect customs, language or traditions so they continue
3. globalisation	c. able to use two languages well
4. communicate across cultures	d. accept and value differences between people
5. preserve culture	e. sharing ideas, customs or experiences between cultures
6. respect diversity	f. share ideas with people from different cultural backgrounds

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

learn a language	bilingual speaker	communicate across cultures
cultural exchange	globalisation	international community
preserve culture	respect diversity	sense of identity

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

Culture in a Connected World

In a connected world, many people need to **communicate across cultures**. Learning another language can help them understand different ways of thinking.

A **bilingual** person may have more chances to study, travel or work internationally. Language can also help people build friendships outside their own community.

Through **cultural exchange**, people can share music, food, ideas and traditions. However, **globalisation** can also make some communities worry about losing local customs.

For this reason, it is important to **preserve culture** while also learning to **respect diversity**. People can belong to a local culture and still be part of an international community.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. Why can learning another language be useful?

2. What opportunities might a bilingual person have?

3. What can people share through cultural exchange?

4. Why might some communities worry about globalisation?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'bilingual' mean?

- A. Able to use two languages well
- B. Unable to understand other people
- C. A person who travels by plane
- D. A traditional meal

What is the writer's main view?

- A. People can preserve local culture and respect global diversity.
- B. Globalisation should stop all traditions.
- C. Learning languages is never useful.
- D. Cultural exchange only happens online.

7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe one benefit of learning another language.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: Does globalisation make cultures more similar?
Writing	Write a short paragraph about why cultural diversity matters.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- Why do people learn foreign languages?
- Is it possible to belong to more than one culture?
- How can people preserve local culture?
- What are the benefits of cultural exchange?
- Can globalisation damage traditions?

**ANSWER KEY**

Culture and Traditions

3. Match the meaning

1. c = able to use two languages well
2. e = sharing ideas, customs or experiences between cultures
3. a = the way countries and cultures become more connected
4. f = share ideas with people from different cultural backgrounds
5. b = protect customs, language or traditions so they continue
6. d = accept and value differences between people

6. Check your understanding

1. It can help people understand different ways of thinking.
2. More chances to study, travel or work internationally.
3. Music, food, ideas and traditions.
4. They may worry about losing local customs.

MCQ 1: A. Able to use two languages well.

MCQ 2: A. People can preserve local culture and respect global diversity.