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Asimilador Cultural

## **Culture Assimilator Claro como el agua**

### **Incident**

You are visiting a family in México and while you are conversing the family offers you a drink of water. It is burning hot outside so obviously you accept the offer and watch anxiously as they go for your drink. You see the mother open up the garbage can in the corner and dip in a glass and then proceed to give it to you. As you sit there in shock as to what just happened, what will you do?

### **Possible Responses**

1. You kindly tell the family that you changed your mind and that you are no longer thirsty.
2. You accept the water and then accidentally spill it to avoid having to drink it.
3. You ask the family why they keep water in a garbage can and proceed to explain a more sanitary method of storing water
4. You just drink it and enjoy it.

### **Retorts**

**You selected option #1.** Ouch! How would your mother feel if you ran to the dinner table because you were so hungry and then when you saw what was for dinner you asked to be excused. Do you think she wouldn't notice what was going on. This is not a good option.

**You selected option #2.** This would be a very clever approach to avoiding something you don't want to do however your thirst remains unquenched and the family has a big mess to clean up.

**You selected option #3.** Sorry. This option shows a lack of cultural tolerance. Just because they might do things in a different way than where you are from does not give you any right to try and change them. They might become very offended

**You selected option #4.** Good job. You first have to know that many families in Latin American countries store their water in clean plastic garbage cans. A good majority of the time it has been boiled and ready to drink. You have to remember that they are humans too and cannot drink things that are very harmful to ones health. You should be okay in just guzzling it down and quenching your thirst.

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