

Ginny Watts
Asimilador Cultural

You are in Bolivia and a friend of yours introduces you to another person. You noticed that your friend greeted this person with a kiss on both cheeks. This is something you are not accustomed to doing and it is uncomfortable for you. What will you do?

- A. Stick out your hand for a handshake.
- B. Just smile and say “Hola, con mucho gusto.”
- C. Ignore the person or act like you weren’t listening.
- D. Greet them with a kiss on the cheek.

- A. If you did this, it is friendly, but very American.
- B. This is also a nice thing to do, but shows lack of understanding of the culture.
- C. You are very rude and impolite or don’t understand the language well.
- D. Good choice!!! This is the proper way to greet a person. Depending on the country, a kiss on both cheeks usually means a strong friendship. A kiss on one cheek is very appropriate for first time acquaintances.

You are sitting at the table and just finished eating a meal with the García family. Everyone is finished and you want to leave but no one gets up. You are unsure of what you should do.

- A. Just sit there until you can stand it no longer.
- B. Say “Necesito salir por favor.”
- C. Look at the wife and say “Gracias” and then proceed to thank the entire family for the meal.
- D. Stand up and leave and say “perdón” on your way out.

- A. If you just sat there, you are a patient person.
- B. Ok, but not very polite or gracious. You will be labeled as a “gringo.”
- C. Best choice!!!! It is considered very well mannered and polite to thank the person who prepared the meal and the family and to show that you enjoyed the meal and their company.
- D. You are probably in culture shock and the family will probably think you are sick.