

Exercise 25 :

A– Samir is a Moroccan university student in an American University. He is now talking to the foreign students councillor, Mr. Taylor. Read the conversation and answer the following question.

Did Mr. Taylor know that burping in Morocco is not considered offensive? How do you know?

Samir: Good morning, Mr. Taylor!

Mr.Taylor: Good morning. Please have a seat. Can I help you?

Samir: Yes, Mr.Taylor. I'd like talk to you about an embarrassing experience I had this weekend.

Mr. Taylor: An embarrassing experience? What do you mean?

Samir: Well, I was invited by a friend of mine for dinner. His family was really nice and hospitable. But then something happened which made them stare at me.

Mr. Taylor: stare at you? I don't quite follow you. Could you be more explicit?

Samir: Well, actually, they didn't seem to like my burping.

Mr.Taylor: Oh my dear, do you mean you burped during the meal? That's culturally inappropriate.

Samir: What do you mean by culturally inappropriate?

Mr.Taylor: Well, what I'm trying to say is that what you did is not acceptable in our society. It's even- sorry to say the word – disgusting.

Samir: Oh dear! But I was taught in my family to thank God whenever I burp.

Mr. Taylor: Really? In that case, all you've got to do is explain the matter to your friend.

Samir: Thanks, Mr.Taylor

Mr.Taylor: You're welcome

B- Complete the chart with expressions from the dialogue.

<i>Showing a lack of understanding</i>	<i>Asking for clarification</i>

C- match each sentence in box A with the corresponding sentence in box B

Box A

- 1- Fish in that restaurant is not good
- 2- Do you have anything to declare before leaving?
- 3- It's a long time I haven't seen my son.
- 4- I advise you not to use plastic bags. They are Harmful for the environment.

Box B

- a. I don't get your idea. Can you be more specific?
- b. How do you know? Have you ever eaten there?
- c. I'm sorry, but I don't really understand what you mean.
- d. Oh dear. Do you mean that he doesn't visit you on holidays?

D – What would you say in the following situations ?

1. because of their accent, you didn't understand what some tourists asked you. Tell them that you didn't understand.

You :

2. You were chatting with an American e-pal when she used an idiom you didn't understand. Tell her that you didn't understand and ask for more clarification.

You :

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