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； Topic 2 - Culture tradition and festival  
section 1: CULTURE - CUSTOM  
1. If I were to meet (an important older person) in your culture, how should I greet them to be polite and show respect?  
- Firstly, take off your hat. - Open a polite smile. - Using polite greeting sentences to greet those people, for example the sentences equivalent to: “ good morning, sir ” . - However, you should study the way to use proper titles when addressing different subjects. This is not the same to English. For example, if that person is an old woman, you are supposed to greet her with: “ Chao ba a! ” ; whereas a greeting sentence toward an old man is “ Chao ong a! ” . - It is desirable to call Vietnamese professional and government officials by their title, i.e., Mr. Assemblyman, Mr. Doctor, Mr. Lieutenant, etc.- Instead of saying such formal greeting sentences. You can also expressing your respect toward those people by asking them some familiar questions, equivalent to “ How are you? ” , “ Have you had your dinner yet? ” , and so on.- About the handshake etiquette, in Vietnam, the older would be the one who offer his/her hand first. So you ’ d better not offer to shake hand until that person shows that he/ she is going to do so. Women, especially those in the countryside, still shy away from shaking hands, especially with men from their own country. It is best not to offer to shake hands with a woman unless she offers her hand

first.2. Describe a custom from your country that you would like people from other countries to adopt. Explain your choice, using specific reasons and examples. That ' s about the custom of giving gifts. nbsp ; nbsp ; If gifts are taken for the family, they should be items that they could not easily obtain themselves. To take something that they could buy easily would be a bad reflection on their economic means. They love anything oversea, and it does not have to be expensive. If you give the children things, each should have a separate gift. It is not polite to take a whole bag of candy and give it to them as a group. nbsp ; nbsp ; nbsp ; A quid of betel consists of four materials: an areca nut, betel leaf, a chay root, and hydrated lime. nbsp ; nbsp ; nbsp ; A quid of betel makes people become closer and more openhearted. At any wedding ceremony, there must be a dish of betel and areca nut, which people can share as they enjoy the special occasion. nbsp ; nbsp ; During festivals or Tet Holidays, betel and areca nut is used for inviting visitors and making acquaintances. nbsp ; nbsp ; nbsp ; It can be said that there were three layers of culture overlapping each other during the history of Vietnam: local culture, the culture that mixed with those of China and other countries in the region, and the culture that interacted with Western culture. nbsp ; nbsp ; The most prominent feature of the Vietnamese culture is that it was not assimilated by foreign cultures thanks to the strong local cultural foundations. On the

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