



HOW DIFFERENT CULTURES GREET WHEN THEY MEET: EXPLORING SOME CULTURE-BOUND LANGUAGE PATTERNS

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Research purpose. The research aims to delve into some culture-bound language patterns used when greeting people in international encounters, as well as those engaged when we apologize and express gratitude in such settings.

Research Methodology. To achieve this, the research relies on the corpora comprising language samples provided by representatives of different cultures, some of which are high-, some of which are low-context cultures. The respondents were exposed to some hypothetical scenarios, placing them in intercultural context and asked to grow the natural language patterns they would opt for when greeting international groups, apologizing in such settings and when expressing their gratitude.

Results / Findings. Despite all the differences visible among the observed cultures, it has been revealed that they actually apply very similar language to express themselves in English, as a medium of communication, when communicating interculturally.

Originality / Practical implications. Given the complexity of the topic and a rather restricted number of respondents, similar investigation could, with no doubt, be elaborated; anyhow, even as it is, it might provoke some further analyses, covering different topics, and be of value in international classrooms, and other places where different cultures meet.

Keywords: communication, culture, differences, intercultural encounters, language patterns, similarities