

Cultural differences

Pre-task:

Do you think of yourself as a person that is punctual? Do you think being on time is important? How much of the importance of punctuality depends on the culture of a country?

Task 1:

Have a look at the sayings and proverbs about punctuality below. Discuss them and their meaning.

„Punctuality is the art of guessing how late the other fellow is going to be.“ (Richard Cecil)
„Punctuality is a virtue, if you don't mind being lonely.“ (Donald Marquis)
„Punctuality is the politeness of kings.“ (Louis XVII of France)
„Punctuality is the soul of business.“ (Thomas C. Haliburton)

Task 2:

Discuss the process of meeting up in your countries. Furthermore, try to find (more) cultural differences.

Cultural differences: directness, reject an invitation, to stick to your own opinion only,...

Follow-up activity:

Enact a meeting up using the vocab aid below; accept or reject the invitation, keeping cultural differences in mind.

I'd rather we could...
That's a lovely idea but...
I'd love to, however...