

Giving Gifts Around the World

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2. Noun - Plural
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4. Preposition Or Subordinating Conjunction
5. Noun - Plural
6. Noun
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In today's modern world gifts are an important and often overlooked part of cultivating strong relationships. In many countries business is made by _____ Noun gifts. However, gift giving can be a problem when you do not understand the culture and _____ Noun - Plural of the recipient's homeland. In some cases, giving the wrong gift can even make _____ Noun - Plural worse.

It is important to know when people expect gifts, so become _____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction with the holidays that a country celebrates. Muslim people, for example, exchange cards during the three-day festival at the end of Ramadan. In a country where Christianity prevails, most people exchange gifts during the Christmas holidays. However, there are many differences. While Scandinavians give gifts on Christmas Eve, Italians give _____ Noun - Plural to their loved ones on Epiphany, January 6th.

When you travel a lot you might want to give someone a gift. In western countries we usually give a gift upon _____ Noun, in eastern cultures gifts are given before the guest leaves. When you're invited to someone's house, it's almost always _____ Adjective to give a housewarming gift.

_____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction of when you decide to give a gift, it is important to think about the kind of gift to give. It would be wrong to bring chocolate to a Belgian friend or a bottle of wine to a French _____ Noun. Even bringing flowers can be troublesome. For example, certain flowers, such as chrysanthemums in Europe, are reserved for funerals. Roses, in many regions, are often too _____ Adjective.

And in some countries it is _____ Adjective to give an even number of flowers, while in others, odd numbers should

be chosen.

Also consider religious customs. In India, for example, people value animals, especially cows. It would thus be

_____ Adjective _____ to give someone a leather briefcase. You shouldn't give a Hindu a handkerchief either, because it often symbolizes sorrow and death.

Lastly, the ritual of presenting gifts _____ Preposition or subordinating conjunction _____ from culture to culture. In Asia it is

_____ Verb - Past Participle _____ polite to refuse a gift the first time. It shows modesty and people may appear

_____ Adjective _____ if they accept the first time. Unlike some western countries, it is unfitting to open the gift in the

_____ Noun _____ of the giver. Asians often take the gift and set it aside to open later because they don't want to

_____ Verb _____ the giver if they don't like it.

While giving gifts varies dramatically from country to country, following general guidelines and doing a bit of

_____ Verb - 3rd Person Singular Present _____ helps you avoid making major mistakes.