

# Life Abroad

## Your Host Country

These questions are designed to help spark your curiosity about the country, to direct your reading and research, and to sharpen your knowledge. How many can you answer? Once you arrive overseas, you might use them to fill a quiet moment with your host family, or to strike up a conversation at a pub.

### People:

1. How many people can you name who are prominent in the affairs (politics, athletics, religion, the arts, etc.) of your host country?
2. Who are the country's national heroes and heroines?
3. Are other languages spoken besides the dominant language? What are the social and political implications of language usage?
4. What things are taboos in this society? How do people greet one another? Shake hands? Embrace or kiss? How do they leave one another? What does any variation from the usual greeting or leave-taking signify?

### Customs:

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7. Do women work outside the home?
8. What type of leadership roles do women and minorities hold?
9. How do men treat local women? American women?
10. How does your host country view minorities within the country and elsewhere?
11. Are pay scales equal for men, women, and minorities?
12. Is there a women's rights or civil rights movement?
13. Are there special concerns/issues that women and minorities should be aware of before they study abroad in your host country?