

True or false?

Read the text again and mark the statements below true (T) or false (F):

1. People all over the world think Brazilians are the best tourists.
2. The Japanese are often afraid of doing or saying the wrong thing when travelling.
3. The French are generally not very happy to speak English.
4. The Germans want to get a real feel for the local lifestyle when they travel.
5. The Germans are happy to show their appreciation for good service.
6. The French don't seem to be very tidy when they travel.

If your nationality is not mentioned in the four categories in the survey, do you think it should be?

Language

The article describes the Brazilians as 'polite' and the Germans as 'rude.' Below are some more words from the article and some other ones to describe character. Match the words on the left with their opposites on the right:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. polite | a. quiet |
| 2. friendly | b. mean |
| 3. loud | c. rude |
| 4. generous | d. unfriendly |
| 5. open-minded | e. messy |
| 6. tidy | f. intolerant |

Do the same with these:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 7. honest | g. impatient |
| 8. gentle | h. warm |
| 9. patient | i. boring |
| 10. fun | j. dishonest |
| 11. excitable | k. aggressive |
| 12. distant | l. calm |

How do you think people from other countries see people from your country? Would they use any of the adjectives above?

Discussion

Work in pairs or small groups. Which nationalities do you think are being described below?

1. They're always in big groups.
2. They talk too loud.
3. The men are womanisers.
4. They're good dancers.
5. They smoke too much.
6. They're all fat.
7. They think they're the best.
8. They're violent people, I think.
9. They're so mean. They count every penny.
10. They talk with their hands.
11. They're bad drivers.
12. They're all rich.
13. They always want things done their way.
14. The women are beautiful.
15. They're all blonde-haired and blue-eyed.

Do you think your discussion would have offended people from any of the countries you have been talking about? Do you mind if your country is talked about in the same way?