

IELTS ENGLISH PODCAST. NATIONS AND CULTURE. TRANSCRIPT

Part 1. Which Part Of Your Country Do You Like To Live In?

I haven't lived in my country for a long time, but if I had the choice I would live in the Lake District. The Lake District is a wonderful national park in the northwest of England with lots of little villages, big mountains, rivers. It's a beautiful, beautiful place and definitely where I'd want to live.

Part 1. What Makes You Feel Proud Of Your Country?

Well, I'm somewhat proud of my country. I wouldn't say I'm patriotic, but I do love some of the culture in England. I am quite proud of the long history and the wonderful parts of culture, such as the architecture, the food, believe it or not, I think it's fantastic. So we have a lot of things that I'm quite proud to talk about and I like to tell my students, tell my friends and say you should try this in England. So yeah, that's what makes me proud.

Part 2. Describe A Foreign Culture That You Are Interested In.

I'd like to tell you about South Korean culture. About 12 years ago now, I came to Korea for the first time and my first experience was culture shock, definitely. It was South Korea is so different to England it was shockingly different and it took me about 3 months to really adapt and feel comfortable living here. I don't know, you know, I think the norms are so different, that's the big thing, you know like people are so rushed here compared to England so at first that can be quite difficult to overcome, but once I did and once I felt comfortable. I really fell in love with the country and it's culture.

So, let me tell you a little more about South Korean culture. Food is so important. The food in Korea is so diverse. There's so many different types of ingredients and ways of cooking, methods and things like that it's quite interesting to experience. You know, things like fermented food is very unusual to a British person. I think the quintessential Korean food or Korean dish would be the barbecue, where you have the pork with all of the side dishes. So to people who have an experienced Korea, I would recommend the Korean barbecue. I know that is famous globally.

Apart from that, I like the buildings, the design, the colours. It's just, it's quite unique, the culture, Korean culture compared to others in this area of the world. For me personally, it's become something I've become very interested in and somewhere I consider home, which is quite unusual. In the future...

VOCABULARY

architecture (noun) - the design and style of buildings or structures.

culture shock (noun) - the feeling of being confused or surprised when you experience a new and different culture.

diverse (adjective) - made up of many different types or kinds.

fermented (adjective) - food or drink that has been changed by tiny living things to make it taste different, like yogurt or bread.

globally (adverb) - happening or affecting the whole world.

norms (noun) - the usual ways of doing things in a group or society.

patriotic (adjective) - feeling proud of your country and showing love for it.

quintessential (adjective) - the most perfect example of something.

somewhat (adverb) - a little bit or kind of, but not completely.

villages (noun) - small groups of houses and people, usually in the countryside.