

NCLY



Nordic Council  
of Ministers

You are from the Red Islands.  
You enjoy meeting foreigners,  
but you don't like strangers  
touching you. In your home  
country, you rarely look each  
other in the eye and always  
avoid eye contact when you  
meet someone for the first  
time.

Red Islander

NCLY



Nordic Council  
of Ministers

You are from Greener Land.  
In your country, people  
usually touch each other  
lightly on the arm when  
talking. You like meeting  
foreigners, but not people  
from White Island.

Greenerlander

NCLY



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Red Islander

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Red Islander

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Greenerlander

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You are from White Island.  
You enjoy meeting people  
and express your  
enthusiasm with hand  
gestures. It is also common  
to interrupt when someone  
is talking. When you meet  
someone, you greet them by  
shaking hands with both  
hands.

White Islander

NCLY



Nordic Council  
of Ministers

You are from the Blue Land. In  
your country, people usually  
look at the ground when they  
speak and always keep their  
arms folded when the other  
person is speaking, and you  
are very polite. You never  
interrupt someone else. When  
meeting and leaving, you  
always bow deeply.

Bluelander

NCLY



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You are from White Island.  
You enjoy meeting people  
and express your  
enthusiasm with hand  
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White Islander

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Bluelander

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White Islander

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Bluelander

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Scene 1. You are in a restaurant with colleagues. The Greenerlanders are hosting, telling you about the local food and asking what others would like to drink and eat.

In the restaurant

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Scene 2. You are at a conference networking event in Greener Land. You want to get to know as many people as possible. You can ask questions such as where the other person is from, what they are studying, what they thought of the conference, what they think of Greener Land, etc.

At the conference

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In the restaurant

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At the conference



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Scene 3. You are  
sightseeing in Blue Land,  
but you get lost. Try to  
find a local and ask for  
directions to the art  
museum.

Directions

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Scene 4. You are in a  
shop on White Island. You  
want to find something  
local as a souvenir. You  
ask the salesperson and  
other customers for  
advice.

In the shop

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but you get lost. Try to  
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In the shop

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Scene 5. You are in a job interview for a teaching position on White Island.

The interviewers are teachers from a school in White Island. Conduct the job interview.

Job interview

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Scene 6. You are in the hospital in the Red Islands because you fell and hurt your ankle. You need to talk to the doctor and staff about what to do.

In the hospital

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Scene 5. You are in a job interview for a teaching position on White Island.

The interviewers are teachers from a school in White Island. Conduct the job interview.

Job interview

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Scene 6. You are in the hospital in the Red Islands because you fell and hurt your ankle. You need to talk to the doctor and staff about what to do.

In the hospital



1. Print enough country cards for all students.
2. Each student looks at their card to see which country they are from and studies the characteristics and customs characteristic of that country.
3. Then the students are divided into mixed groups with some people from each country. Each group is given one task card, and each must take on a role and behave according to the customs of their own country.
4. Finally, the activity is discussed using the accompanying questions.

## Instructions for role-playing

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- What do we learn about these four different cultures?
- What role do physical contact and gestures play?
- What caused - or could have caused - conflicts?
- How did the participants resolve conflicts?
- Are there any similarities between these four cultures and your own? And how do they differ?
- What culture did you find the strangest?
- What was it like participating in the role-playing game?
- Did you find it difficult to understand the behavior or actions of others?

## Questions after the role play

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The modified role-  
playing game is based  
on the following website:  
[https://maledive.ecml.a  
t/Portals/45/Roleplay2.  
pdf](https://maledive.ecml.at/Portals/45/Roleplay2.pdf)

Sources