

Weird or Just Different ?

“There's a saying that whatever true thing you can say about India, the opposite is also true.”

- Derek Sivers

Warm-up

- What do you think the quote above means?
- Is there a particular country that you would like to visit?
- Have you ever lived in a different country?
If yes: Why did you move? What did you learn?

If no: Would you ever consider moving to a different country?

- Have you ever visited a country that is very different to yours? Did you experience *culture shock*?
- Have you ever eaten something strange?
- Is there something that you do in your country that is unique?



1. You are going to watch a video called *Weird or just different*. The phrases below were directly taken from the video. Match the underlined words with their meaning:

1. He leaves, a little confused and disappointed. *F, E*
2. Walking around the neighbourhood, I noticed that the house numbers don't go in order. *D*
3. It's easy. It's obvious! *C*
4. There are doctors in China who believe that it's their job to keep you healthy. *B*
5. When you're sick you don't have to pay them because they failed at their job. *G*
6. This map is also accurate. *A*

a) correct

b) to be in good health. The opposite of sick.

c) clear

d) district

e) a sad feeling when something didn't go the way one wanted it to

f) how one feels when something is not clear

g) the opposite of pass “Jane was happy because she passed her maths exam”

Who is Derek Sivers?

Derek Sivers is an American writer, musician, programmer and entrepreneur best known for being the founder and former president of CD Baby, an online CD store for independent musicians. Sivers started CD Baby by accident in 1997 when he was selling his own CD on his website, and friends asked if he could sell theirs, too. CD Baby went on to become the largest seller of independent music on the web, with over \$100M in sales for over 150,000 musicians.



2. Watch the video "weird or just different?" and answer the questions below:

- a) What is different about how the Japanese organise their cities and addresses? *They name blocks not streets*
- b) How do the Japanese number their houses? *In order of which was built first*
- b) What unusual payment system do some doctors in China use? *They only charge money if you're healthy*
- c) What was different about the map at the end of the talk? *It was upside down*



3. Discuss the following with your class:

- a) Have you ever looked at a map in the way Sivers presents it before?
- b) Did you find the talk interesting? What did you like or dislike about it?
- c) Do you know about any cultural differences you could share with the class?

¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0sA5_e7rwcM&ab_channel=TutorJson