

Lengua adicional inglés

Ejes: Instancias de reflexión. Ámbitos de uso de la lengua adicional.

Capacidades: Aprendizaje autónomo. Comunicación. Análisis y comprensión de la información.

Objetivos: Comprender y producir textos escritos. Realizar funciones comunicativas.

Contenidos curriculares: Lectura y escritura de textos narrativos. Formular una hipótesis.

What popular superstitions do you know?

Activities

Before you start

Answer the following questions:

Are you superstitious? Do you follow any ritual before a difficult exam, a sports match or even a date? Do you know any popular superstitions in Argentina? Which one/s?

* Which of these popular superstitions do you know? (Tick ✓ your answer/s).



broken mirrors ☐ black cats ☐ touching wood ☐ the number 13 ☐



Pista: Recordá que al final de la ficha encontrarás **la clave de respuestas** de las actividades para revisar tu trabajo.



Pista: Antes de realizar una actividad de **comprensión lectora** como la actividad que sigue, te sugerimos que primero leas el texto completo para tener una **idea general**. Recordá que podés ayudarte resaltando las **palabras transparentes** (parecidas al castellano) que puedan aparecer. Por ejemplo, en el texto a continuación, **superstitions** es una palabra transparente.

1. The following is an extract from a travel blog called “A Quick Guide to Argentine Superstitions”. Read the text about one superstition in particular and complete the gaps with these transparent words: **ancestors - president - spiritual - creature - accepted - mythology - tradition**.

A Quick Guide to Argentine Superstitions

Even if you aren't particularly superstitious, you'll probably say “bless you” when someone sneezes, just in case the devil should decide to steal their soul - as our **ancestors (a)** thought possible each time someone sneezed. Superstition also explains why many buildings do not have a 13th floor in some parts of the world.

Here in Argentina, superstitions are deep-rooted traditions that range from cultural to _____ **(b)** Argentine customs are intriguing and definitely useful to learn about if you plan on visiting soon. Here's a quick guide to some of the most popular ones. Check them out!

According to a bizarre

_____ **(c)** seventh sons will turn into *lobizones* (werewolves) unless the president him/herself adopts them. That custom began in 1907, when Enrique Brost and Apolonia Holmann, Volgan German emigrés from _____ south-eastern

Russia asked then-president José Figueroa Alcorta to become godfather to their seventh son. Apparently, the couple wanted to maintain a custom from Czarist Russia, where the Tsar was said to become godfather to seventh sons, and Argentina's president

_____ **(d)**



In Guaraní _____ (e), the *lobizón* is the son of Tau, an evil spirit, and Kerana, a mortal woman. In the cultures that believe in the *lobizón*, that _____ (f) acts a sort of Grim Reaper,* whose mere presence means that death will soon befall those it comes into contact with. By the 19th century, fear of this creature was so acute in Argentina that families sometimes murdered their seventh sons to prevent the legend from coming true. So in 1907, in an attempt to stop this practice, the Argentinian _____ (g) began adopting seventh sons, which the president insisted would stop the curse. In 1973 the presidential adoption tradition was also extended to seventh daughters.



* The Grim Reaper: death, imagined as a skeleton with a large curved tool used for cutting crops. (Source: Cambridge dictionary).

Adapted version from “Argentina Has a Superstition That Seventh Sons will Turn into Werewolves” (<https://bit.ly/3jzqEyP>).

2. Read the text again and **highlight** at least 5 transparent words.
3. Here’s another extract from “A Quick Guide to Argentine Superstitions”. What do you think about the superstition described? Do you follow this ritual?

Okey Dokey Gnocchi: *If you eat gnocchi on the 29th of every month with money under your plate, then you will improve your financial situation in the coming month. Some Argentines aren’t aware of this as a superstition, but instead they believe that it is just a tradition brought over from Italy.*



Pista: En inglés, para hablar de las consecuencias probables de una situación específica usamos el Condicional 1: **[If + presente simple] + [will / won’t + el verbo en infinitivo]**. Lee la siguiente

oración extraída de Okey Dokey Gnocchi: 1) **If you eat** gnocchi on the 29th of every month with money under your plate, then **you will improve** your financial situation in the coming month. Mirá los siguientes ejemplos: 2) In Argentina many people believe that **if you put on** a sweater or a T-shirt inside-out or backward, **you’ll receive** a gift. 2) **You’ll ward off*** envy **if you wear** a red ribbon round your wrist.

* Ward off: to do something to prevent someone or something from harming you. (Source: Macmillan dictionary)

4. Match sentence halves (1-5) with (a-f) to find some popular superstitions from around the world. There’s an extra option.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. If you break a mirror, | a. if you knock on wood. |
| 2. If you walk under a ladder, | b. you’ll have seven years’ bad luck. |
| 3. You’ll ward off bad luck | c. paint will fall on your head. |
| 4. If you find a four-leaf clover, | d. if you open an umbrella indoors. |
| 5. You will have bad luck | e. you will have good luck. |
| | f. your marriage will fail. |

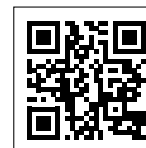


Pista: Antes de realizar una actividad de **comprensión oral** como la actividad que sigue, te sugerimos que primero escuches el audio o mires el video una vez para tener una **idea general**.

Scan the QR code to listen to the dialogue between Rob and Sam about food superstitions.

6 Minute English (BBC Learning English)

<https://bit.ly/3xp458g>



Escaneá este código para acceder al contenido.

5. Listen from **00:00 to 1.10** and answer the following question:
Who seems to be more surprised about superstitions: Rob or Sam?
6. Listen from **1:10 to 6:15** and decide if the sentences (**a-e**) are true (T) or false (F).
- a. The Halloween tradition of using pumpkins to carve scary faces didn't start in Ireland. ____
 - b. The connection between food and magic is relatively new. ____
 - c. The expression "evil eye" is very specific. ____
 - d. During the Hindu New year, people prepare a special chutney using different flavours to represent what's going to happen that year. ____
 - e. Sam's answer to a quiz question was right. ____

Before you finish

Write about a popular superstition in Argentina or in another country. You can look for information on the internet. Focus on the following questions to organise the information: 1) Where and when did the popular superstition begin? 2) What kind of person, animal, or supernatural creature was involved? 3) What happened to them? 4) Why do you think the superstition you've chosen is so popular?



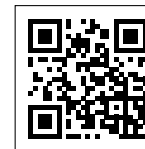
Pista: Para organizar el **proceso de escritura**, te sugerimos que dividas tu trabajo por etapas hasta llegar a la producción final. Por ejemplo, podés comenzar tomando nota de algunas ideas sobre el tema que vas a escribir, y luego empezar a redactar los borradores hasta llegar a la producción final.

Further practice

TED-Talk: Where do superstitions come from?
- Stuart Vyse

<https://bit.ly/37LXA4C>

Escaneá este código para acceder al contenido.



Keys for correction 3) a. ancestors; b. spiritual; c. tradition; d. accepted; e. creature; f. president. **4)** 1.b; 2.f; 3.a; 4.e; 5.d. **5)** Sam. **6)** a.T; b.F; c.F; d.T; e.F.