



Brainstorming Meanings of Body Language and Gestures


Look at each image and write different possible meanings of the gesture, thinking about how these meanings might vary across cultures.

1  *This is perfect!*


2  *Leave me alone!*


3 

4 

5 

6 

7 

8 

9 

10 

Possible answers

Note! Alternative: the teacher could randomly dictate these phrases and the students could match them to the gesture. It could be quite fun.

<p>. OK/Perfect gesture: - "This is perfect!" - "I completely agree" - "That works for me" - "You got it"</p> <p>2. Self-hugging/Arms crossed: - "I'm not comfortable with this" - "I need some space" - "I'm feeling nervous" - "Leave me alone"</p> <p>3. Winking gesture: - "Just between us" - "Get it?" - "You know what I mean" - "Trust me on this"</p> <p>4. Hand on chin: - "Let me think about that" - "I'm considering it" - "Interesting point" - "I'm not sure about that"</p> <p>5. Peace/Victory sign: - "Peace out!" - "We did it!" - "Victory is ours!" - "Peace and love"</p>	<p>6. Fingers crossed: - "Wish me luck!" - "I really hope this works" - "Please let this happen" - "I'm counting on this"</p> <p>7. Yawning: - "I'm so tired" - "I need some sleep" - "This is making me sleepy" - "I didn't get enough rest"</p> <p>8. Shrugging with palms up: - "I have no idea" - "What can you do?" - "Beats me" - "Who knows?"</p> <p>9. Staring: - "I'm watching you closely" - "I don't trust what you're doing" - "I'm keeping my eye on you" - "What exactly are you up to?"</p> <p>10. Crossed fingers behind back: - "I'm not being truthful" - "I don't mean what I'm saying" - "I'm making a false promise" - "Trust me (deceptively)"</p>
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