

English Greetings

Beginning

Either used to begin a conversation or used as a passing greeting.

Anytime of day	
Hello / Hi	
Morning	Actual Time
Good Morning Mornin' (Short form)	Normally anytime from Midnight to Midday.
Afternoon	Actual Time
Good afternoon Afternoon (Short form)	After Midday until 5pm (Earliest time of sunset in England)
Evening	Actual Time
Good Evening Evenin' (Short form)	Anytime after 5pm until people have gone to sleep. (If a person has not slept you would still use evening until sunrise)

Ending

Used at the end of a conversation.

Anytime of day	
Good Bye / Bye / Bye Bye (Comes from Old English God Bless Ye)	
Take Care	
See you later	
Evening	Actual Time
Good night	Anytime after 5pm until people have gone to sleep. (If a person has not slept you would still use evening until sunrise)
Religious	
May Allah protect you	From Arabic FI-UMMAN-ALLAH. Commonly used by Muslims
God Bless You	Commonly used by Christians
Good Day (G'day)	Australia
Have a nice day	US

Body Language Guide

US	UK & Northern Europe	Mediterranean & Latin America	Middle East & Muslim countries	S.Korea, China and Japan
Generally a firm hand-shake. Female friends and good friends may kiss and hug.	A handshake. Female friends and good friends may kiss and hug.	Acquaintances can expect an air kiss on both cheeks. Hugs and kisses are normal. In Italy men may kiss each other on the lips.	Men may hug each other. Women and men may acknowledge each other with a small bow. Be aware that some men may not make any form of eye contact with women. More modern women may offer a gentle handshake, but a man should NEVER offer his hand first.	A bow is normal. The more junior person should bow lower. Some who are more westernized may offer a gentle handshake.

Teacher's Notes

This is a fairly comprehensive guide to greetings. I know every English book on the planet has a greetings section, but I still get asked this a lot so I thought I'd put them altogether in one place. This is not really intended as a lesson, but there is plenty of ways that you could use it as a warmer or part of a lesson, here are some ideas:

1. A simple Role play
2. Draw a clock on the board and ask students to decide when they would use Good morning, good afternoon, good evening and good night.
3. An introduction to the way that people greet each other in different cultures. Discuss what students do in their countries