

Nigeria



The official language of Nigeria, English, was chosen to facilitate the cultural and linguistic unity of the country post-colonization by the British. The major native languages spoken in Nigeria represent three prominent families of African languages - the majority are Niger-Congo languages, such as Yoruba, Ibo, the Hausa language is Afro-Asiatic; and Kanuri, spoken in the northeast, primarily Borno State, is a member of the Nilo-Saharan family.

The major Christian celebrations of Christmas and Easter are recognized as national holidays. Muslims observe Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting, and the two Eids.

Family relationships are guided by hierarchy and seniority. Nigeria is a hierarchical society. Age and position earn respect. Age is believed to confer wisdom so older people are granted respect. Similarly, a family's honor is influenced by the actions of its members. Individuals turn to members of the extended family for financial aid and guidance, and the family is expected to provide for the welfare of every member

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The oldest person in a group is revered and honoured. In a social situation, they are greeted and served first. In return, the most senior person is responsible for making decisions that are in the group's best interest.

The most common greeting is a handshake with a warm, welcoming smile. A Nigerian generally waits for the woman to extend her hand.

As in the rest of Africa, it is rude to rush the greeting process. You must take the time to ask about the person's health, the health of their family, or other social niceties.

Observant Muslims will not generally shake hands with members of the opposite sex.

When greeting someone who is obviously much older, it is a sign of respect and deference to bow the head.

Gifts should be given using the right hand only or both hands. Never use the left hand only. Gifts are not always opened when received.

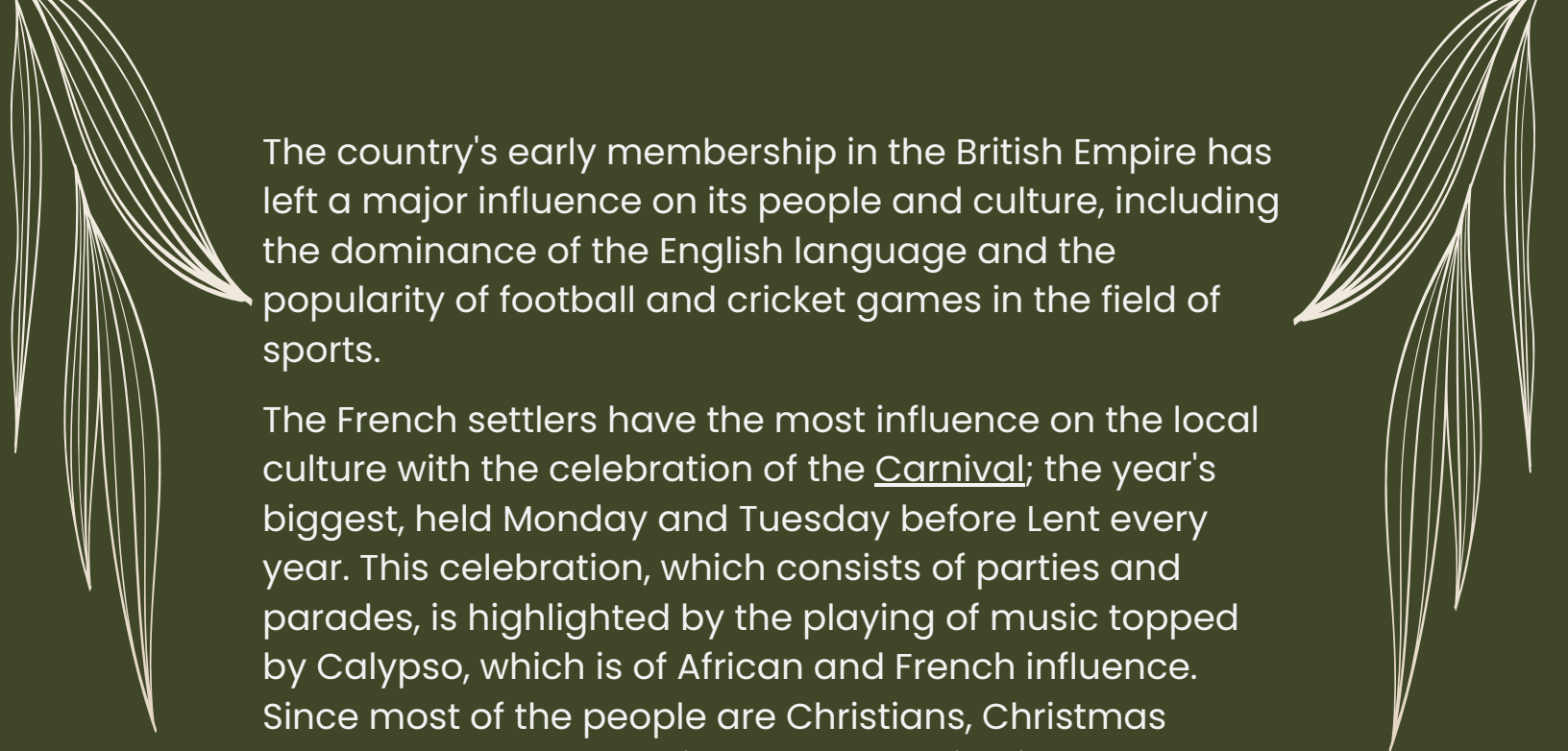


Trinidad and Tobago



Trinidad and Tobago, officially referred to as the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, is a twin island nation located off the northern border of South America mainland. Due to the diverse population in the islands, the languages as expected are diverse too. **English** is the main language used in Trinidad and Tobago but in some parts of the country, other languages such as French, Spanish, Chinese, and Hindi dialects are used. People from both islands speak and write Standard English in official settings. It is, however, important to note that each island prefers its own kind of **Creole English**. The two types of English include Trinidadian Creole and Tobagonian Creole. These forms of English have their own unique grammar and articulation.

In religion, the Roman Catholics belong to the largest religious group, followed by the Hindus, Anglicans, Muslims, and Presbyterians, in that order.



The country's early membership in the British Empire has left a major influence on its people and culture, including the dominance of the English language and the popularity of football and cricket games in the field of sports.

The French settlers have the most influence on the local culture with the celebration of the Carnival; the year's biggest, held Monday and Tuesday before Lent every year. This celebration, which consists of parties and parades, is highlighted by the playing of music topped by Calypso, which is of African and French influence. Since most of the people are Christians, Christmas comes as the second biggest celebration in the country.

Please note: Each of the families attending your school are unique. While it is so important to educate ourselves about cultures other than our own, it is equally important to avoid grouping students into a single category or make assumptions about a student based on what you know to be true of his or her culture. Learning the history and background of students is just one piece of understanding your students. If you would like to learn more about the cultures of Nigeria or Trinidad and Tobago, please connect with your families at your school and take a look at the attached websites.

<https://www.commisceo-global.com/resources/country-guides/nigeria-guide>

<https://www.studycountry.com/guide/TT-culture.htm>

https://guide.culturecrossing.net/basics_business_student_details.php?Id=8&CID=206

<https://www.everyculture.com/To-Z/Trinidad-and-Tobago.html>