

## READING AND LISTENING

Listen the text and read it again. Get the new words!

### 10 things Brazil does better than anyone else



**1** – The mere mention of Brazil brings to mind sun, fun and samba. But there are a whole lot of other things the country does particularly well. Here are ten things done better in Brazil than anywhere else.

**2** – Number 10. Unique sports. A popular pastime in Brazil is a friendly competition known as Foot Volley. It's like beach volleyball, only players use their feet instead of their hands. Given the country's ample supply of beaches and general love of soccer, melding the two was bound to happen.

**3** – Number 9. Vacation days. At 41, they have more of them than any other country. 30 of them are paid work leave and the remaining 11 are due to national holidays.

**4** – Number 8. Table manners. When it comes to eating in the most polite manner possible, Brazilians have it pretty well locked up. It's common practice to use silverware at all times. Even when eating burgers and pizza.

**5** – Number 7. Outdoor culture. Given the weather they've been blessed with, it's not surprising that Brazilians enjoy a wide variety of activities that take advantage of it. Beaches, sidewalk cafes and wildlife excursions are but a few of the countries popular pastimes.

**6** – Number 6. Juice Bars. Not only does Brazil have a lot of them, they're often stocked with some amazing tropical fruits. Caju, Camu Camu and Pitanga are just a few ingredient options. Their bananas are also hailed as being the tastiest the world has to offer.

**7** – Number 5. Soccer World Cup wins. So far, they've won the title five times. Their first was in 1958 and their most recent happened in 2002.

**8** – Number 4. Big splashy parties. Carnival and the New Years Reveillon bash are two of the biggest spectacles in the world. There's also a whole lot of fun that goes on during the rest of the year. Religious holidays, regional celebrations and arts festivals are just a few of the reasons Brazilians get together and enjoy the good times.

**9** – Number 3. Coffee Production. Brazil is the leader when it comes to producing coffee beans. They're responsible for producing about 55 million bags a year. Of which over 30 million are exported.

**10** – Number 2. Large religious statuary. Christ the Redeemer, a statue of Jesus Christ which is perched atop Corcovado mountain is nearly 125 feet tall. Built in 1931 it's been named one of the seven new wonders of the world.

**11** – Number 1. Music influence. This is particularly the case with Bossa Nova, a mix between samba and jazz. It emerged in the 1950s and was created by a group of students, artists and musicians embracing and defining their unique bohemian lifestyles and beach culture.

**Answer the questions:**

1. Why do foreigners still mention carnival when they refer to Brazil?

2. Do you agree with the phrase: Brazil is still the country of football ...?

3. What do you like about the country you live in?

4. If you had the chance to live abroad, which country would you like to live in and why?

5. What would you recommend to anyone who intends to come to Brazil one day?

6. Talk about some different habits from Brazil. For example, in the United States, The lunch time is very fast and breakfast is boosted. In Japan, they usually take off their shoes before entering the house. The Chinese often take hot water because they believe it is good for their health.

7. Seven Brazilian habits that foreigners think are bizarre:

- Eat avocado with sugar
- Call people by first name.
- Live with parents after adult.
- Throw the used toilet paper in the wastebasket and not in the toilet.
- On the beach, stand facing the sun and not always facing the sea.
- Take more than one bath a day.
- Public exhibition of affection. Hugs and kisses

What items do you agree with them?

