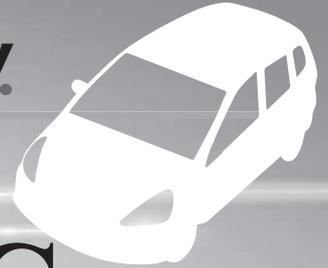


UNIT 1

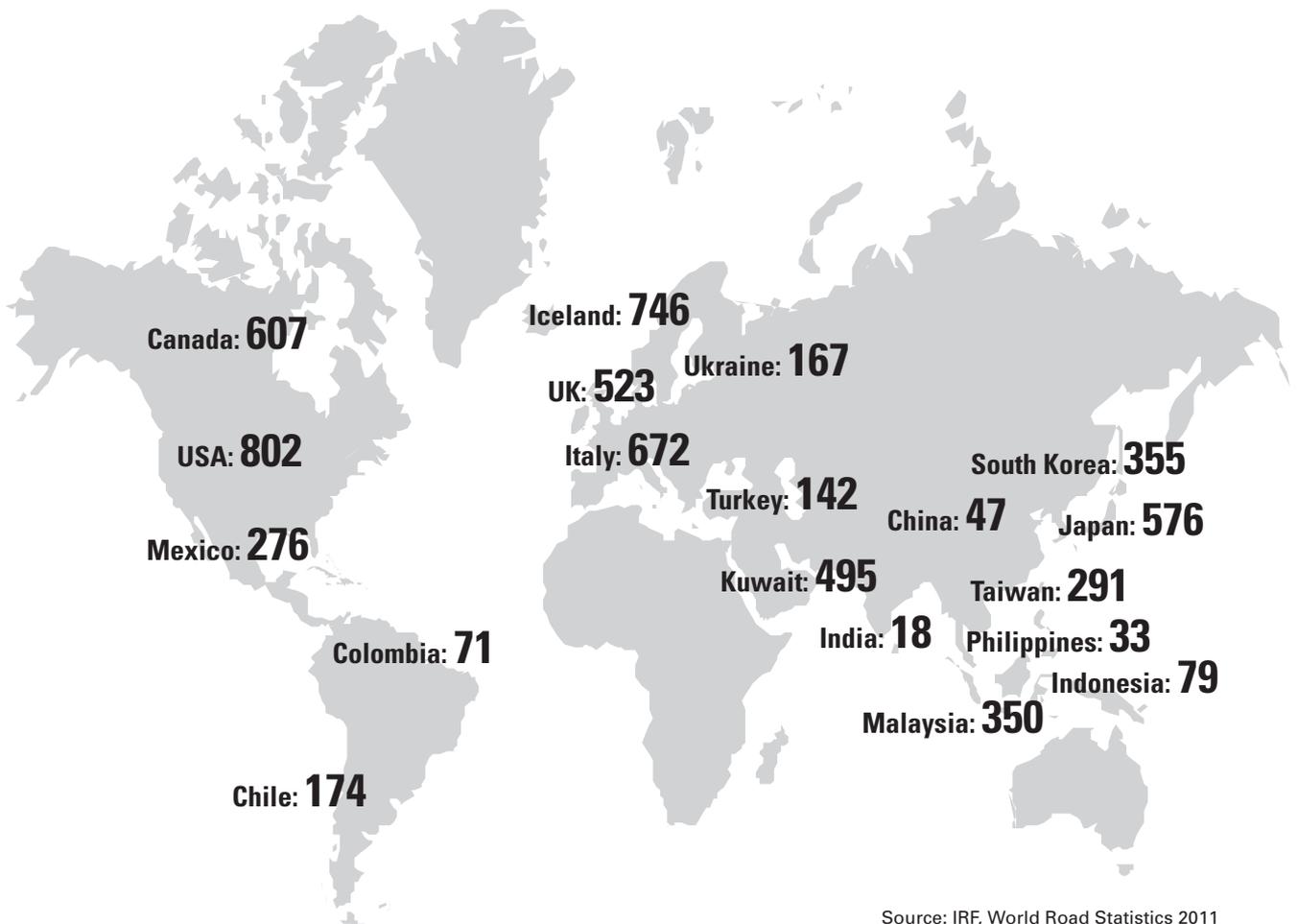
Living in the 21st Century



Drive My Car



Do you have your own car? If you don't, you may be imagining getting your dream car someday. What kind of car would you like to hold the steering wheel of, saying, "Baby, you can drive my car?" Let's look at the number of cars owned per 1,000 people in countries around the world.



Source: IRF, World Road Statistics 2011

EXERCISE**Living in the 21st Century**
Drive My Car**Exercise 1**

Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)?

1. **T F** More people own cars in Japan than in Kuwait.
2. **T F** Iceland has the highest rate of car owners in the list.
3. **T F** India has the lowest rate of car owners in the list.
4. **T F** In China nearly 100 people per 1,000 own a car.
5. **T F** Chile has slightly fewer car owners than Ukraine.
6. **T F** South Korea and Malaysia have about the same number of car owners.
7. **T F** The UK has approximately twice as many car owners as Mexico.
8. **T F** A lot of people in the Philippines own cars.
9. **T F** Canada has half as many car owners as Taiwan.
10. **T F** Car owners in Indonesia and Colombia are about the same.

**Exercise 2**

Choose a), b), c) or d) to complete the sentences below.

1. You use the () to turn the car left and right.
a) brake b) back wheel c) front wheel d) steering wheel
2. In the US, () people than any other country own cars.
a) less b) more c) most d) least
3. () than 100 people in 1,000 own cars in Columbia.
a) Less b) Least c) Under d) More
4. Indian people own () cars than Chinese people.
a) few b) fewer c) fewest d) least
5. Icelanders own almost () the number of cars as Indonesians.
a) twice b) three times c) four times d) ten times

Japanese Flavors

Go International



Wasabi snacks are hot in France

Wasabi, miso, panko, ramen, mirin, sake, surimi and pickled ginger—Japanese culinary products are finding their way into kitchens around the world, including France and the USA.

By Leah Larkin

Peter Cherkerdjian is the owner of an Asian food shop in southern France, and wasabi is perhaps his top-selling Japanese item. He says of Japanese ingredients, “They are becoming more and more popular.” Customers buy wasabi paste or powder to use in sauces, for example. Wasabi adds a tangy touch to crème fraîche, which the French often use in cooking.

Wasabi-flavored snacks are also a big hit in France. When entertaining, the French sometimes serve snacks with an aperitif—a drink before the meal. Wasabi-flavored chips, crackers or roasted peas—tiny green bites with a pleasant, piquant taste—are always a winner. In the U.S., wasabi is used to spice up drinks, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Different kinds of miso soup mixes, such as mushroom, beef or *shiitake*, fill several shelves in Cherkerdjian’s store, as well as shelves in French supermarkets. Miso paste is also popular both in France and the U.S. One American mixes it with ketchup to make a dip for vegetables.

Lynne Cryster, an American cook who lives in France, is a fan of *panko*. She cannot find it in France, so always remembers to bring back bags of *panko* after a visit to the U.S. “It’s great for breading anything, Asian or not, and much crispier than breadcrumbs,” she says.

The American food magazine *Bon Appetit* recently featured an article, “Ramen Rising.” The iconic noodle soup is making its mark in the U.S., where “ramen spots” are opening. At an elementary school in Colorado, ramen sometimes replaces the American hot dog for the school lunch.

“Ramen will eventually take over as the world’s go-to comfort food,” says Ivan Orkin, a New York chef who moved to Tokyo and became obsessed with ramen, then came back to open two noodle temples in the city. “It’s a perfectly balanced *umami* bomb. It’s also fun to eat,” he says.

EXERCISE

Japanese Flavors

Go International

**Exercise 1**

Choose a), b), c) or d) to complete the sentences below.

1. *Surimi* is one example of a Japanese () product.
a) cook b) kitchen c) tangy d) culinary
2. Wasabi-flavored roasted peas have a () taste.
a) sweet b) salt c) piquant d) snack
3. You can mix miso with ketchup to make a () for vegetables.
a) dip b) meal c) mix d) snack
4. Around the world, ramen has become () noodle soup.
a) a mushroom b) an iconic c) a crispy d) a hot dog
5. The New York chef Ivan Orkin is () with ramen.
a) unhappy b) cooks c) comfort d) obsessed

Exercise 2

Choose the correct answer to each question below.

1. When do the French drink an aperitif?
a) Before the meal b) With the meal
c) Before dessert d) After the meal
2. What does Lynne Cryster always bring back from the U.S.?
a) Pickled ginger b) Breadcrumbs
c) *Mirin* d) *Panko*
3. How many noodle shops has Ivan Orkin opened in New York?
a) One b) Two c) Three d) Four

