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# Introduction

These are the most commonly used American gestures, ones understood throughout the United States. We've included only gestures whose meaning is symbolic, not ones that are universal expressions of emotion, such as fear.

Phrases in quotation marks are said with the gesture or are the exact verbal equivalents of the gesture.

Phrases in parentheses are the explanation of what is meant.

Fists are always made with the thumb outside the fingers.

The sign + indicates successive parts of a gesture.



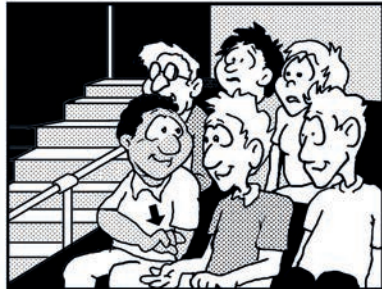
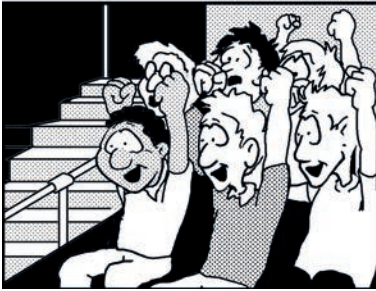
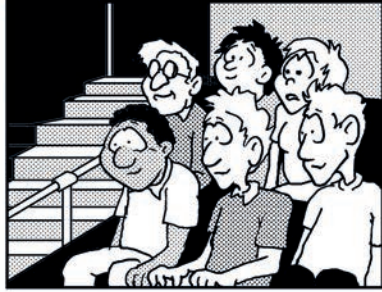
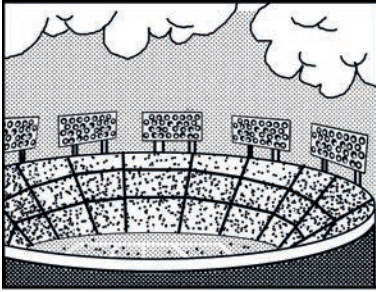
1. "Give me 5!"  
(Greeting.)
2. "All right!"  
(Celebration.  
That's great.)

The gesture is always returned.

When done at shoulder level it's a "High 5".



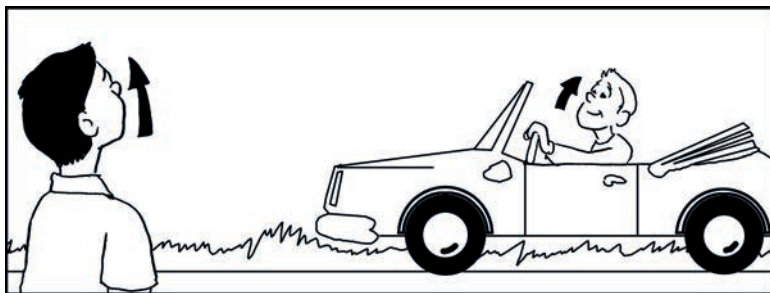
1. (Greeting)



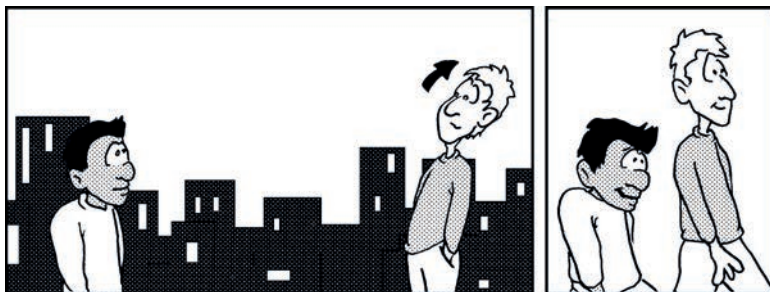
2. (Celebration)



1. "Howdy."  
(Greeting at a distance.)
2. "Come here."  
"Come on this way."



1. "Howdy."



2. "Come here." "Come on this way."