1. Pictures, mementos from home – people, meals, buildings, etc. These can be used by you when you are feeling homesick and can also be used to share with the class to help them know more about you.
2. Musical instruments – help relieve stress and can be used in class.
3. Music CDs – help you feel "at home" and can bring a new curiosity to the class.
4. DVDs, movies, recordings of TV shows, radio stations – When there's nothing appealing on American TV, you can watch something enjoyable. May also be used to show students what movies/TV is like where you live.
5. Something to share with the class (candies, small games, postcards, etc.) – especially useful in language class, helps them learn something of another culture as well.
6. Games that are common in your region/country – balls or other small pieces of equipment that can be used by a group of people. Board games may fit nicely in a suitcase, too.
7. Hand-made items for show-and-tell – remember it's a touch of home that cannot be found here.
8. Pictures/video of regional/national celebrations – something students may not be aware of or may be misinformed about.
9. Small kitchen appliances used to make typical dishes.
10. Inexpensive pieces of jewelry used for a purpose (protection amulets, religious symbols, etc.)
11. Folk remedy objects
12. Religious objects or symbols
13. Small flag
14. Traditional clothing typical of the region
15. Favorite cartoon strips – any in book form? – or cartoons that may be appropriate for the age group you are teaching
16. Menus from restaurants
17. Magazines
18. Pictures of clothing that is in style
19. Newspapers (or online address)
20. Snack foods
21. Pictures of houses, apartments
22. Pictures of cars, other transportation
23. Recall favorite pastimes