Intro

Text Captions: Levels of Culture

Follow the directions on each slide in this activity. Most slides ask you to answer a question. Be sure to click Submit when you are done answering each question.

You can use the player controls below to move through the activity.

This activity will not affect your grade; it is an exercise to prompt your personal reflection. Please complete this interactive activity prior to answering the discussion board questions for Activity 3-B-2. You are welcome to retake the quiz as many times as you would like.

Click Next to continue to the first question.
Brainstorm

Brainstorm the components that make up culture. What makes up your culture? Consider what you can see, how you act, and how you think as aspects of your culture. Click Submit when you are finished.

Please answer the question before continuing

Question 1 of 5
Educator Nitza Hidalgo has developed a model to help us look at culture and how the components of our individual cultures might be categorized.

Roll your mouse over each level of culture to learn more.

Concrete (see): This level of culture is the most visible and tangible level of culture, and includes the most surface-level dimensions such as clothes, music, food, games, etc. These aspects of culture are often those which provide the focus for multicultural festivals or celebrations.

Behavioral (act): This level of culture clarifies how we define our social roles, the language we speak, and our approaches to nonverbal communication. The Behavioral level reflects our values. Aspects to be listed in this category include language, gender roles, family structure, political affiliation, and other items that situate us organizationally in society.

Symbolic (think): This level of culture includes our values and beliefs. It can be abstract, but it is most often the key to how individuals define themselves. It includes values systems, customs, spirituality, religion, worldview, beliefs, and mores.
Matching
Text Captions: Identify The Levels
For each of the aspects of culture below, drag and drop them to the correct level of culture.
A) Concrete
B) Behavioral
C) Symbolic
Question 2 of 5
Aspects of Culture
Clothes
Spirituality
Gender Roles
Food
Language
Music
Value Systems
Knowing You

What level of culture does someone need to know you at in order to really know you? What level of your culture does another person need to know before they can really understand your perspective?

A) Concrete
B) Behavioral
C) Symbolic

Question 3 of 5

**Symbolic feedback:** Yes, if people understand you at the symbolic level of culture, they have a much better understanding of your perspective. Click anywhere to continue.

**Behavioral feedback:** Are you more than just your group memberships and the language you speak? Although your groups, language, and behaviors do reflect your values, the symbolic level of culture is where those values originate. Someone who knows you at the behavioral level of your culture knows more than just the concrete level, but less than the symbolic level. Click anywhere to continue.

**Concrete feedback:** If people know your food and music, will they really know what is important to you? Will they understand your values? Someone who knows you at the symbolic level of culture will have a much deeper understanding of your perspective than someone who only understands the concrete level. Click anywhere to continue.
Importance

What level of culture is most important to you in your own self-identity?

A) Concrete
B) Behavioral
C) Symbolic

**Symbolic feedback:** Most people would agree with you that the symbolic level is the most important to how people define themselves. Click anywhere to continue.

**Behavioral and Concrete feedback:** Although there’s no right or wrong answer for how you personally define yourself, most people would say that the symbolic level of culture is most important. Click anywhere to continue.

Question 4 of 5
Others’ Culture
Text Captions: Others’ Culture
When you walk down the street and see someone from a different culture than yours, at what level of their culture do you perceive and judge them?
A) Concrete
B) Behavioral
C) Symbolic
Most of the time, we perceive and judge people we have just met on the concrete level of culture. We often don’t know enough to perceive them on the behavioral or symbolic level of their culture. Click anywhere to continue.
Most of the time, we perceive and judge people we have just met on the concrete level of culture. We often don’t know enough to perceive them on the behavioral or symbolic level of their culture. Click anywhere to continue.
Please answer the question before continuing
Question 5 of 5
Reflect
Text Captions: Reflection
Consider the questions from this exercise as you respond to the discussion for Activity 2-D-2.