

## What Is Culture?

**Definitions:** Define the following words. The definitions must be written in your scribbler to get full scribbler marks.

Culture	Anthropologists	Cultural diversity
Physical needs	Emotional needs	Material culture
Non-material culture	Values	Traditions
Traditional culture	Rites	Popular culture
Socialization	Institutions	Formal groups
Informal groups	Mainstream	Culture
Contributing cultures		

### Some questions and points to know.

Culture is transmitted from one generation to another but it is not the same as the genetic traits we inherit from our birth parents.

1. Can we change our culture?

2. Can we change our genetic traits?

When we are born, we have the ability to learn any language. Why is it difficult to learn a different language later in life? When you are young, you are not as afraid to make mistakes or sound silly. A young person is learning new ideas all the time, so it is easier.

Language is the key to the identity of any culture. Through language, people can express their experiences, values and beliefs.

Can language change? Yes, as society changes with new technology, new words or meanings evolve. Also, as it becomes easier to communicate, people of different cultures share their experiences. Examples:

New – Internet, download, compact discs.

Expanded meanings – web, mouse.

Culture – languages are shared (words from other languages appear in conversation).

3. Try to provide two more examples of each of the above categories.

What is a role model? It is a person we look up to because of their actions.

4. Name a sports figure. How do you know about this person? Why is this person important to you? Is it possible that you can be misled about this person? How? Do you think it is right to pay a sports figure such high wages?

5. Why will we pay \$50.00 for a concert ticket but not donate \$5.00 for medical research or animal protection? Why do we place such a high monetary value on sports or music?

## **Chapter Questions**

1. List 5 major components or aspects of culture.
2. Look at Table 5.1 on page 68. Answer the questions posed in the caption.
3. Do page 69 # 1.
4. Do page 69 # 3.
5. Why do covered bridges exist?
6. Explain the difference between material culture and non-material culture.
7. With what does the Celtic ideal have to do?
8. Page 74 # 1.
9. Page 74 # 5.
10. List 8 institutions or agents of socialization. Rank them according to what you feel is or has been the greatest influence in your life. Number 1 being the greatest and number 8 the least.
11. Define microcosm.
12. Page 76 # 1.
13. Page 76 # 2.
14. Page 76 # 4.
15. Define dialogue.
16. What is problem solving?
17. Define mediation.
18. Page 78 # 3a. Do 3 of the situations.
19. List the members of your old group and classify them as members of the mainstream culture or of contributing cultures.

**Computer:** 1. Go to the CNN Sports Illustrated web site: [www.cnnsi.com](http://www.cnnsi.com)

Each person in your group must record in their scribbler the US and International (World) headlines for a sport. If the headline is the same for both US and World, record a world story that is not reported on the US page. Give the date the information was recorded. Each member of the group must choose a different sport.

2. Find out what each of the following is and record in all group members' scribblers: Diwali, Yom Kippur, Ramadan, Kwanzaa