

Week 2

Topic: Features of Culture

Guiding Questions:

How do the means of providing for basic needs become a group's culture?

What are the common features found across cultures?

Content Goal:

- I. To identify the common features of culture.
- II.

Activities:

1. Post "What is culture?" Graphic from lesson 1.(SIOP: Background building)
2. Divide students into small groups of 3 or 4.
3. Using the Features of Culture worksheet as your guide, first have the students look at the chart and think about the basic need for food. Ask them what kinds of habits/traditions/customs may come from meeting the basic need for food?
Possible student answers: typical foods based on what's available, how you prepare the food, how you serve it, special foods you might use to celebrate a holiday or special occasion, sharing of food within the community, greeting visitors with certain foods.
Paraphrase the students suggestions, such as: "So I hear you saying your family/community always greets people with tea when they visit - that's what we may call hospitality - a custom of the friendly and generous way we welcome guests, visitors or strangers."
 1. Tell them they have 4 mins. (can increase or decrease) to brainstorm in their small groups behaviors, activities, ideas or customs that might develop from the other basic needs.
 2. Walk around to each group to help them in their brainstorming.
 3. When time is up, have each group share their written or drawn ideas. As they share write the English word for the suggestion or put their picture and the English word on the chart in the appropriate space or in a list with four columns labeled food, shelter, safety, and communication. As you are writing their suggestions try to find similarities with the features listed on the Features of Culture worksheet and paraphrase as demonstrated above. (SIOP - interaction, building background, paraphrasing)
 4. Give each student a Features of Culture list to complete (there are two versions- a question format for 3rd and 4th grade and list format for older students).