CULTURE Culture has different implications. “Cultural person” is the one who has a wide range of knowledge and experience, wise + noble. “Culture” means to grow plants or bread animals. “General culture” is equal to general knowledge. “Cultural activities” are related to fine arts, concerts, drama, movies and so on..

CULTURE🡪is about ideas, values, beliefs, customs, a way of life of groups of people. Ex: “Lahmacun” , “mantı” , “potur” or “nazar boncuğu” (evil eye) all have meanings in Turkey. They mean something to Turkish people while it doesn’t mean anything to a foreigner.

“Şiş kebap, baklava, lokum”🡪 are familiar tastes to other cultures. They represent Turkish culture.

Culture as a way of life is influenced by: 🡪climate 🡪geography 🡪population (ex:sex , age) 🡪technology (a determinant in terms of the degree of development)

THE COMPARİSON BETWEEN “CULTURE” AND “SOCİETY

🡪 Culture is composed of all objects and ideas within a society. 🡪 A large number of people who live in the same territory and who are relatively independent of people outside their area and who participate in a common culture constitute a society. 🡪 In other words, a society is the largest form of human group which consist of people who share a common culture. A culture is a society’s way of life. CULTURAL UNIVERSAL 🡪They are called as cultural practices or objects, the ways or patterns a culture is expressed of.

🡪All societies developed cultural universals to meet basic human needs such as language, housing, laws, musics, tools and so on. 🡪Though cultural universals are cultural practices that are presented, the manner they are expressed will vary from one culture to another. Ex: “Toys R Us”🡪sells porcelain dolls in Japan wooden toys in Germany high-speed train in France 🡪The expression of any cultural universal in a society may change dramatically over time. Ex: rock ‘n’ roll dancing was popular in 1950s in the world. CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE Culture is learned 🡪It is not genetically inherited – not instinctive. Culture is not in born.

Culture is shared 🡪It should be shared by members, otherwise we (collectivist) cannot talk about a culture.

Culture can change 🡪By adapting new ideas and technological advances.

🡪Change is necessary for societies to adapt themselves to their environment.

🡪Culture is dynamic. 🡪It’s an expanding process and will continue to evolve (for some million years).

Culture provides satisfaction 🡪Social and psychological needs (belonging, affiliation, recognition, etc.), protection, safety, identification are satisfied via culture.

Culture is integrative 🡪It integrates all people under shared beliefs, norms and values. Culture transmits values, information, customes to other generations. Otherwise, each generation would have to reinvent television, wheel, telephone and so forth. That’s how paintings, statues or jewelry stand for all these years. Ex: Think of yourself visiting a museum. CLASSIFICATION OF CULTURE -MATERIAL VS. NONMATERIAL 🡪Material culture refers to physical or technological aspects of our lives ( food, houses, raw materials, tools, equipment, automobiles, historical buildings, architectural structure )

🡪Nonmaterial culture refers to customs, beliefs, philosophies, patterns of communication ways of using material objects, social and psyhological needs.The nonmaterial culture is more resistant to change than the material culture.

-POST FIGURATIVE VS. 🡪The culture learned by those who join the society afterwords. The new borns in a society learn from the older ones.

-COFIGURATIVE VS. 🡪The culture that is formed as a result of interaction. Ex: The old people stand as models for the young but the young ones do new things, too. A new value is experienced by the old and the young together simultaneously. -PREFIGURATIVE 🡪The culture learned by older ones from younger ones. It is necessary for adaptation to novelty. Ex: The generation of Charleston has learnt Rock N Roll Music and Dance from the next following generation.

-OPEN VS. CLOSE 🡪Open culture is open to new things and novelties and it is flexible.

🡪Close culture is the culture that resist change, that is conservative, strict and rigid.

-Culture of Poverty vs. Culture of Wealth 🡪 is another classification according to economic conditions. There are different cultures because of the differences in cultural components. Elements of Culture 1)Language How a culture is revealed, how a culture survives, how cultural values, beliefs are communicated to people. -How we communicate in our society -The foundation of culture -A system of symbols used to transmit meanings -Nonverbal and verbal ( oral+written ) communication Ex: Sign language ( especially for deaf people ) a combination of hand and body movements. -For the use of and transmission of the culture -Eventhough the two countries use the same spoken language, there are differences in the use of the language. Ex: “Let’s make a move” ( British ) “Should we go or should we better go”( American )

- A culture’s most important norms, values and beliefs are communicated to people through language.

2)Norms

Norms are:

**-**Rules or guidelines or standarts of behavior.

-Established standards of behavior maintained by a society

-Shared rules that guide our behaviors in a given situation.

In order for a norm to become significant, it must be widely shared and understood.

All society encourage and enforce what they view as appropriate behavior while discourage and punish what they consider to be improper bahavior -Even in small groups, there are norms.

Types of Norms a) Formal norms 🡪They have generally been written down and involve strict rules. Punishment is applied in case of violation.

Ex: Law ( body of rules which is inspired by the constitution, made by the government, interpreted by the courts).

Regulations 🡪 about specific rules in specific organizations

Ex: For a college student, requirement for attendance.

b) Informal norms🡪 They are generally understood but are not precisely recorded, no severe punishment is given like in formal norms. Ex: Standards of proper dress ( coming to work or school quite differently from everyone else ) Ex: -women should be respected by man in the society -elderly should be cared and respected. -Sometimes norms are violated because one norm conflicts with another Ex: Next door neighbour’s wife is beaten up by the husband. You are witnessing a violence. If you interfere, you are invading to privacy. -There are exceptions in norms. The same action can be approved or disapproved under different circumstances. Ex: “ killing people” 🡪 it’s violance ( in normed situations ) 🡪 it’s not disapproved in the war -According to economic, political and social conditions, some norms are subject to change. Ex: the role of women as possessing a career in society has changed when compared to old days. 3)Sanctions Sanctions are what happens when people violate widely shared norms. 🡪penalties and rewards concerning the violation of a social norm. Positive sanctions🡪pay raise, a medal, a word of gratitude

Negative sanctions🡪fines, threats, imprisonment Ex: -neglecting to put any money in a parking meter. -The person who is supposed to provide sanction should be aware of the violater’s actions ( he should be detecting the violater ).

-There can be improper application of sanctions in certain situations. Ex:A person can receive a fine or raise for the occurance of a specific behavior whereas another person may not. -The most salient values will be most heavily sanctioned, less critical ones will carry light and informal sanctions.

4)Value

🡪 collective conceptions about what is considered good, desirable and proper or bad, undesirable, and improper in a culture. They are socially shared ideas about what is good, right or desirable.

-Norms are expressions of values so values influence the content of norms.

–Values are what people prefer, what they find important, morally right or wrong in a given culture.

Ex: values🡪 -achievement -equality -efficiency -interdependency

-Values influence people’s behavior and help evaluating the actions of others.

There is often a direct relationship between the values, norms and sanctions of a culture.

Ex: “Not giving his seat to a pregnant women in the bus.” Value🡪it is right and prefered to offer his/her seat. Norm🡪( informally ) seats should be given to pregnant women.

Sanction🡪criticising the person who has not offered his seat.

5)Education “culture is learned” - Education helps develop abilities and knowledge.

- It also helps transfering cultural values from generation to generation. Ex: “ the knowledge of our country’s history, art or letriture are transferred by education”.

Values in the family are transferred by education.

6)Ceremories

Special events that members of a society celebrate . Ex: -Turkish Republic Day and other National Holidays. -The start of the new term at the university. -Yogurt festival in Silivri. -Celebrating independence day of a city. Customs🡪 events that members of a society are familiar with which reflect values, norms and beliefs of the society. Ex: -Kissing elder’s hand in Turkish culture -Buying presents to children in Bayrams.

7)Beliefs

They are formed by collecting information directly or indirectly about an object or a person. They are acquired by learning. Beliefs shape values, norms and attitudes.

Attitudes🡪 They are shaped by the formation of beliefs. They’re the determinants of behavior. A kind of pre-judgement about where a person, idea or an activity falls on a continuum from liked to disliked. Ex: Attitudes toward smoking. Attitudes toward foreigners. Attitudes toward an occupation .

Cultural Integration

Cultural Integration 🡪bringing together conflicting cultural elements which result in a harmonious and cohesive whole.

-In a well-integrated culture, various norms, values and customs will support each other and fit together well, fit together in a way that they support each other.

-It’s not always the result of agreement by all members of a culture. Sometimes this process is enforced from the top, the top dictates his/her values to the less powerful members. Cultural Variation 1)Subcultures

A segment of society which shares patterns of values that differ from the pattern of the larger society. They are common parts, aspects to the overall culture.

-In a way, a subculture is a culture that exists within a larger, dominant culture.

-At the same time subcultures have their own beliefs, values, customs, ceremonies, language and so forth.

🡪patterns of communication, words with special meanings-slang words represent a subculture.

Ex: -Different nations compose United States of America so that each nation is a subculture.

-Gypsies

-Turkey🡪according to socio-economic traits, subculures exist.

-The criteria that makes subcultures could be; +age +religion +beliefs +interest +sex +ethnic groups +occupation +education +income level and so on.

\*\*Question : Can we say that a general culture is equal to the sum of subcultures? 2)Countercultures

A counterculture is a subculture that rejects societal norms and values of a larger society and seeks alternative lifestyles. It doesn’t necessarily have to be violant.

-Countercultures are typically popular among the young since they have the least investment in the existing culture.

Ex: 1980s🡪punks 1950s🡪movements againts Korea War 1960s🡪people against war in Vietnam 1990s🡪people against golf war 2000s🡪Iraqe War -nazis, skinheads

-the end of 1960s, hippies🡪 were for such values as love, peace, sharing and humanistic values and they were against materialism, 3)Culture shock 🡪in a unfamiliar culture, a person may feel strangely disoriented , uncertain, out of place, even fearful. These are all indications that he or she may be experiencing during culture shock.

Ex: - What Turkish people feel who were born or brought up in abroad – especially when they return to Turkey.

- Chineese ( dog meat ) or Indian food (different spices) may cause a culture shock for Turks.

-What a foreigner feels in Turkey when he/she notices men kissing each other on the cheek can be a culture shock until he/she gets used to.

When you move from one neighbourhood to another, you may experience culture shock.

Attitudes Toward Cultural Variation 1)Ethnocentrism🡪 the tendency to assume that one’s culture and way of life are superior to all others. 🡪 considering his culture as a standard of correct bahavior. -The ethnocentric person sees his/her own group as the center or defining all other cultures as differing from what is normal.

-It is about critisizing other groups under such categories as

“ primitive” or “ underdeveloped”.

Ex: -Americans way of saying “ Of course , we are American.”

-Naming or labeling some groups of people according to their social class, educational background or occupation ( “rich”, “poor”, “ignorent”, working class etc. ) is ethnocentrism.

-Way of saying “Indian”🡪native,

“Negro” 🡪African American, Black People.

2)Cultural Relativism 🡪 This kind of attitude views people’s bahavior from the perspective of their own culture.

🡪 examining other cultures in the context of that society and trying to understand other cultures instead of judging them. It requires a serious and unbiased effort to evaluate norms, values and customs of a given culture. Ex:”Some intellectual or humanist people who are willing to experience and get to know different cultures by tasting their food, examining their art, reading their literature and history”.