

# Cultural Awareness Assignment

*Describe a situation where your interaction with people from cultures other than yours, went different from how you had initially expected it to be? What do you think could be the reason behind it (Hint: relate it to the different models that you have learned)*

*Since I have been in contact with international people since my childhood I have learned to never expect or assume anything. This mindset has kept my interactions mostly within my expectations. However, sometimes this still happens.*

*A recent example of an interaction going in a different way than expected would be when I talked to an Ukrainian friend and noticed his culture, habits and language was a lot more linked to Russian than I thought it would be. From the alphabet on his search engine to his experiences/knowledge. The reason behind it is obviously the history, location and culture of his country where he grew up.*

*How would you act in the future when you know that you need to communicate or collaborate with a person from another culture?*

*Be open minded (like you should always be), don't assume things like stereotypes, if I'm unsure or curious about something I will ask instead of assuming and risking offence.*

*If I need to collaborate with them I should be mindful and respectful of their culture and habits. If they need to do something at a certain time of the day we can work around it, as long as they put in the same amount of work overall.*

*In your project group, what did you do to improve the group communications with respect to cultural differences?*

*Our group took a democratic, open stance to leadership/organization so everyone participates in decisions, planning and everything else. This naturally means we all give an input when making choices and so if someone has an issue with a decision they say so immediately. Due to this we have never had a problem due to cultural differences. The fact no one is too shy to speak up also helped.*

*As for working hours we agreed to keep out of each others personal time as long as we respect some weekly deadlines so no such conflicts arose there.*