

# Experience: The Forge of Character

People are different, both as individuals and as communities. Different people have different ways of doing things and different goals, dreams, and ways of life. There are three key terms in cultural anthropology. These key terms are ethnocentrism which is using your culture as a reference to judge other cultures, cultural relativism which is understanding others in their own way, and participant observation which is to not only observe other cultures but to participate in their way of doing things. Culture shock is something that can happen when someone goes somewhere with a culture that differs from their own. Experience more, experience how it is different, and experience things differently and from different views.

What is the source of joy and happiness? Different people and different cultures have different sources of joy and happiness. Some experience it when they get a good grade, some when they get a check, others experience it when they are just relaxing outside. There are many different sources for joy and happiness and depending on where you are some of those change and some stay the same, family seems to be a source of joy and happiness almost everywhere.

Good questions can have power, they can lead you on journeys and you can discover new experiences and new knowledge. To answer these questions can sometimes require change, like the guy who sold his car and just biked south. So try new things and answer the questions you have about anything you're wondering, answer the questions you have about yourself or others.

Experiences are a big factor in life, good or bad, and they seem to shape who you are. You should try to experience many different things, and even step out of your comfort level. Try zipline or learn a new language, maybe experience other cultures or try some weird food. Just experience whatever it is that you want to try. Notes to self: If you have big questions then seek the answer. Research creatures before going somewhere.