



# AMERICAN CULTURE

Session 2  
Fall 2025












# QUIZ

**Final Question:** Write a 3 to 4 sentence paragraph describing your English conversation for this week. You may include information such as who you spoke with, what topic you conversed about, how long you spoke, and how you felt about your conversation.



# TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

-  Today's Team Formation
  -  Name cards/tents and Photos
  -  Team Discussion on Culture
  -  Mapping Your Cultural Orientation
  -  Next Week's Homework Assignments
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- 



# TODAY'S TEAMS



Take a card. Each card represents a symbol of American Culture.



Ask in English, "What is your card?"  
"Do we match?"



Form teams of 6 or more people and sit together.






# NAME CARDS & PHOTOS

## Name Cards

- Fold the paper into thirds as shown.
- Using a dark pen, write your English name or name in Pinyin that you would like to use in this class.
- Under your English name, write your name in Chinese characters and your name in Pinyin with tone markers.

## Photos and Chat Activity

- In teams, come to the front of the room to have your photo taken.
  - While you wait for your photo to be taken, speed-chat with your team:
    - ❖ Favorite holiday or festival?
    - ❖ Important family tradition?
    - ❖ What foreigners may not understand about Chinese culture?
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# TEAM DISCUSSION: CULTURE

Article: Non-material & Material Culture

Video: Julien Bourrelle - How Culture Drives Behaviors/Behaviours

Choose 1 topic and discuss with your team for 5 minutes

- What is the difference between material culture (things we use) and non-material culture (beliefs, values, behaviors)?
- How can culture influence the way people behave in everyday situations?
- Do you think culture is more something we learn from others or something we create ourselves? Why?

Select a spokesperson to share 1 idea very briefly with the class.



# MAPPING YOUR CULTURAL ORIENTATION

Individually mark your orientation on the continua:

Then compare & contrast with a partner.

## Team Reflection

- What values are most common?
- Where are the biggest differences?
- How might these affect teamwork?

Monochronic.....Polychronic

Low Context.....High Context

Individualistic.....Collectivistic

Egalitarian.....Hierarchical

Task Focused.....Relationship Focused

Surfacing Differences.....Avoiding Differences

Emotionally Restrained.....Emotionally Expressive

Individual Identity.....Collective Identity



# HOMework ASSIGNMENTS

1

Write a reflection on your culture orientation map by responding to one of the questions at the bottom of the worksheet. Responses should be 150 to 250 words.

2

Watch the Video, "The Birth of the United States of America"

3

Read the articles: "The Declaration of Independence, 1776" and "The Constitution: How Did It Happen?"

4

Read to understand: "Thick Description" article by Luhrman, "Thick Description Observation Activity"

5

Prepare for next week's quiz.







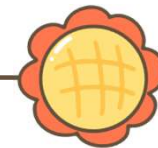
# WRAP-UP & REFLECTION




What did you learn about culture from this week's homework and class activities?



Did your cultural orientation surprise you?



Key takeaway: Culture shapes behavior, varies by values, and influences teamwork.



# HOMEWORK



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