PD8 Assignment 2

Step 1:

1. My parents are always pressuring me about my punctuality so I often try to get to things as early as possible. Sometimes the time I spend waiting is laughable but my parents have always stressed that this makes for a good impression. I agree that it definitely does no harm to be on time for everyone. I would expect others to do the same in a professional environment because I am someone who does not like to waste time while working.
2. I often call my parents by their first names which some people believe shows disrespect. My parents and I are on perfectly normal terms, it is simply another name by which I call them. If anything it is to me more personal because we are on a first name basis and not confined to titles.
3. I have always admired how excellent Japanese people can be when it comes to hosting guests and serving. Service in Japan is done with the utmost of care and consideration (and tips are not necessary!). Japan as a culture is very dutiful and this duty carries into responsibility of guests. This is a quality that I would love to reciprocate in my life as it creates for a much warmer and inviting experience when I am entertaining guests.

Step 2:

1. *Why is it important for hiring managers interviewing culturally diverse applicants to pay attention to differences not only in competence but also in self-presentation styles of interviewees?*

Just as it is the responsibility of the interviewee to present him/herself in the best possible light, it is equally the responsibility of the interviewer to make the best analysis of candidates through probing questions. An interviewer is tasked with analyzing a roster of candidates and deciphering who has what qualities and which of these are most valuable. The communication of a culturally different candidate may not fully represent their true capabilities or personality. Cultural differences like modesty may hinder self-promotion on the candidate’s side and there can be no blame pointed at said candidate for their cultural difference. Interviewers therefore must conduct their interviews in a way which best ascertains information from their source: the interviewee.

1. *What are some ways in which your cultural background may influence your self-presentation style in job interviews?*

I grew up in a cultural environment that has led me to not take myself so seriously. Case in point: I am uncomfortable in dress/professional clothes and I am prone to joking during interviews. I tend to thrive in an interview environment that is more discussion and less question-answer drilling. Discussion as a mode for answering interview questions is more laid back to me because it allows me to better understand how my interviewer operates and more importantly it allows me to reveal to the interviewer that I have an irreducible rascality. This being said, when the time comes I must also present my work with seriousness so that I am still acknowledged as a capable candidate and not just a warm individual.