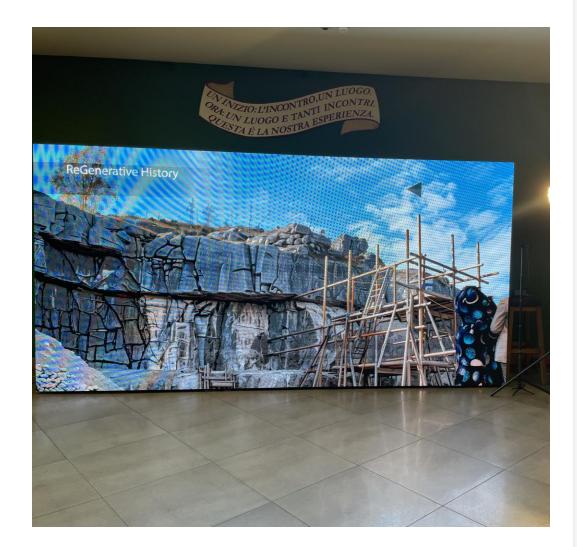
Time Travel Lab

THE 2ND IELA INTERNATIONAL HYBRID CONFERENCE GLOBAL TRENDS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PEDAGOGY: NAVIGATING NEW HORIZONS

KEYNOTE SPEECH EMPOWERING CULTURAL COMPETENCE THROUGH TECHNOLOGY PROF DR CORDELIA MASON 9 MAY 2024

WHAT WILL BE COVERED

- Culture
- Cultural Context
- Cultural Diversity
- Cultural Intelligence
- Cultural Competence
- Enabling Technologies





CULTURE



Sharing a pattern of thinking, feeling, reacting, and problem-solving (Kluckhohn, 1951)

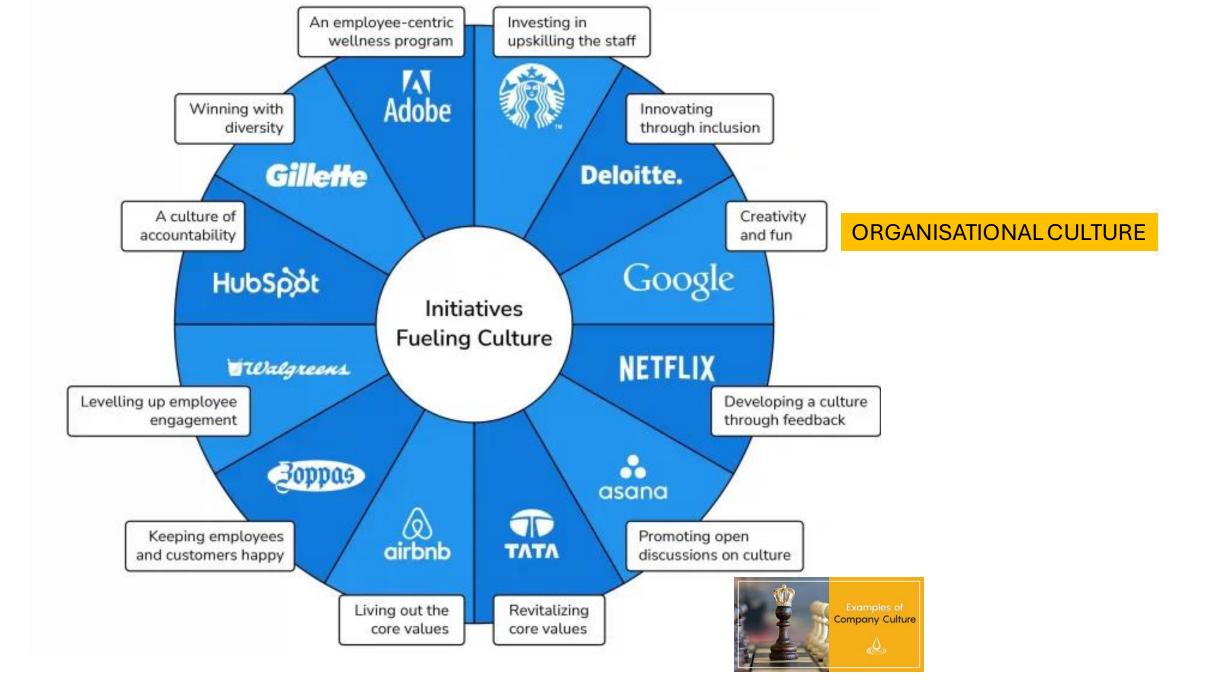
A dynamic relational process of shared meanings that originate in the interactions between individuals (Carpenter-Song, Schwallie, & Longhofer, 2007)

A pattern of learned beliefs, values, and behaviour that are shared within a group; it includes language, styles of communication, practices, customs, and views on roles and relationships (Betancourt , 2004)

Shared beliefs, values, and assumptions of a group of people who learn from one another and teach to others that their behaviours, attitudes, and perspectives are the correct ways to think, act, and feel (Edgar Schein, 2010)

Culture must be considered in historical, social, political, and economic contexts (Gregory, et Al., 2010)

Unfamiliar culture negatively affects an individual's sensemaking mechanisms and determine their behavioral responses. As a result, individuals cannot accurately perceive, interpret, explain, and predict the behavior of people with different cultural background(s) (Muzychenko, 2008).



SETTING THE CONTEXT

Culture must be considered in historical, social, political, and economic contexts (Gregory, et Al., 2010)



CONTEXTS

Circumstances and Settings of an Event, Statement or Idea

SOCIAL Social contexts are all about your society and other societies. Societies have rules around behaviour and interaction.	HISTORICAL Historical contexts are all about unique and specific happenings at a certain point in time. These can include social, cultural and economic contexts in the past.
CULTURAL Cultural contexts are all about understanding cultural expectations and norms. It differs from social context because it focuses on specific culture and sub-culture values rather than the values of society as a whole.	ECONOMIC Economic contexts describe an economic situation. For example, companies opting to globalise would be well advised to know the economic context such as labour market, supply chain, etc.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CLASSROOM

Diversity recognizes the differences between people and includes different factors, such as religion, political orientation, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, language, socio-economic status, and family structure.

Cultural diversity in the classroom involves celebrating those differences and creating a culture of inclusion and acceptance among students and the greater school community.





WHY CULTURAL DIVERSITY SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN THE CLASSROOM?

1. Self-acceptance and confidence

2. Empathy

3. Reduces prejudices

4. Preparation students for being a world citizen

5. Collaboration and respect

6. Social, cognitive, and academic benefits

HOW TO INCORPORATE CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CLASSROOM (1)

- ✓ Getting to know students and families
- ✓ Role-playing
- ✓ Heterogenous Groupings
- Arrange 'What we can learn about each other' activities
- ✓ Organise cross-cultural events
- ✓ Include topics on diversity, inclusion and acceptance



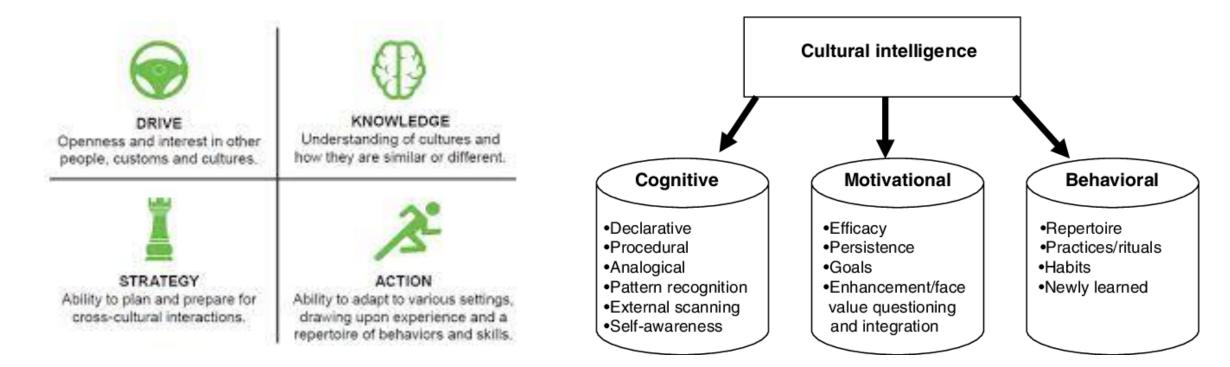
HOW TO INCORPORATE CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CLASSROOM (2)

Inclusive language

- \checkmark Introduce a mixture of languages into your classroom.
- ✓ Label learning centers and classroom resources ("blocks," "computer," "library"), and post classroom rules in two or more languages. Review them often with students.
- ✓ Encourage mindfulness in students when new ideas, language, or food is introduced by discouraging the use of "weird" or "gross" to describe things that are unfamiliar.
- ✓ Avoid references to gender roles and norms both in the classroom and in discussions of home life.
- *Ex*: "What do you and your family eat at home?" instead of "What does mom cook?"
- ✓ Encourage the use of gender-neutral pronouns and terms like "family" or "parents" instead of "mom and dad."



CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE





Cultural competence refers to one's ability to understand and respect people. This includes respecting beliefs, customs, norms, and values of people from different backgrounds.



SDGs' Elements Related to Cultural Competence

Although none of the 17 SDGs focuses exclusively on culture, the resulting Agenda includes several explicit references to cultural aspects. The following elements are particularly worth noting:

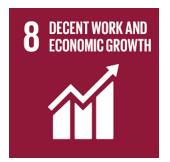
Target 4.7 refers to the aim to ensuring that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills nee- ded to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for global citizenship and the appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.

Target 8.3 addresses the promotion of development-oriented policies that support productive activities as well as, among others, creativity and innovation.

Targets 8.9 and 12.b refer to the need to devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism, including through local culture and products, and to the need to develop suitable monitoring tools in this area.

Target 11.4 highlights the need to strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

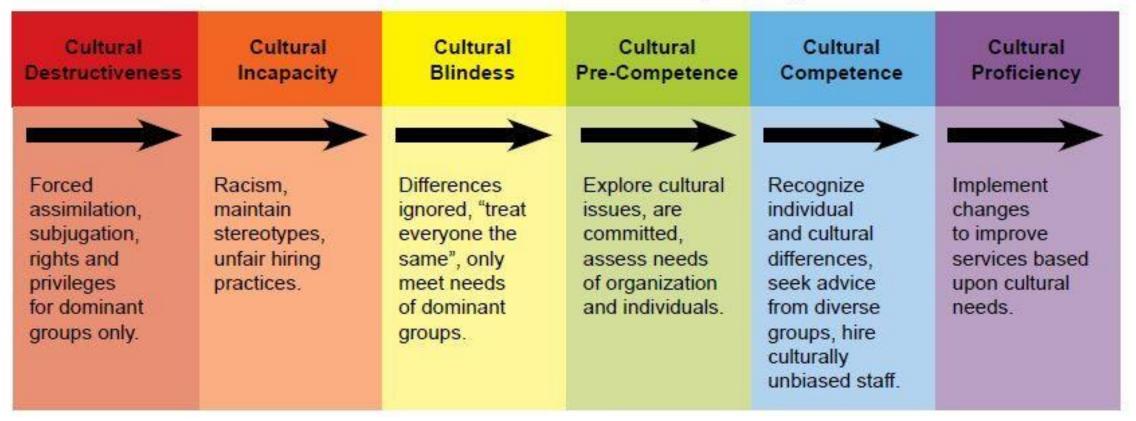








Continuum of Cultural Competency







Why do we need to develop cultural competence? (Hofstede, 2002)

Helps us understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people across cultures.

Gives us the ability to compare different cultures with our own and better understand the differences.

Unconsciously, we bring our own cultural frame of interpretation to any situation. This is not to say that culture alone determines how one interprets a situation. One's own unique history and personality also play an important role.

HOW TO DEVELOP CULTURAL COMPETENCE?

- ✓ Practice openness by demonstrating acceptance of difference.
- ✓ Be flexible by demonstrating acceptance of ambiguity.
- ✓ Demonstrate humility through suspension of judgment and the ability to learn.
- ✓ Be sensitive to others by appreciating cultural differences.
- ✓ Show a spirit of adventure by showing curiosity and seeing opportunities in different situations.
- ✓ Use a sense of humour through the ability to laugh at ourselves.
- Practice positive change or action by demonstrating a successful interaction with the identified culture.





EMPOWERING CULTURAL COMPETENCE THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Technology has had a significant impact on culture, including enhancing cultural exchange and understanding.

With the rise of digital technologies, people from different cultures can now easily connect and share their experiences, beliefs, and traditions.





Technology, particularly the Internet and social media, has enabled the rapid exchange of cultural ideas, values, and practices on a global scale.

ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES, EMPOWERING CULTURAL LEARNING

This increased connectedness has facilitated crosscultural understanding and collaboration, enabling people to learn about and appreciate diverse cultures.



Messaging, video conferencing, and virtual reality technologies can help learners immerse themselves in cultural learning experiences, fostering better cross-cultural understanding and competence. CULTURAL PRESERVATION

ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES, EMPOWERING CULTURAL LEARNING Three-dimensional digital technologies (3D object Capture, 3D Modelling, 3D Scanning, 3D Visualisation, Spatial audio, and photogrammetry are mainly widely used in the preservation of material cultural heritage.

New technologies can also help protect and preserve traditional practices. Virtual and augmented reality video tutorials can pass on traditional practices, while a 360degree viewing can help learners study craftsmanship up close and from all angle.

These technologies allow everything from archeology site, to artifacts to be reproduced digitally. Essentially, it is about creating a "digital twin" that can be preserved forever.



ANY QUESTION?

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YOU ARE INVITED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CULTURAL INCLUSION AND INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE