



GLC Newsletter

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GLC CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT



Eman Fadlalla



"Thank you for hosting me in your class this morning. I enjoyed getting the opportunity to meet you, Aaron, and Luke, and observe you all interact so well in Arabic. The students both spoke very well of their class and their experience in learning Arabic at FSI, including during the remote learning period. They seem to both be progressing very well toward their targets (in as much as I could understand!).

It was interesting to see you go through the morning news, some grammar points, and introduction of new vocabulary. The students were engaged throughout." - Division Director, Division of Near East, Central, and South Asia

"I have been consistently impressed with Ms. Zhu's professionalism and diligence especially during these difficult times. Ms. Zhu is both very bright and quite motivated, always looking for new and interesting professional development opportunities. During a meeting with a group of instructors, Ms. Zhu shared with me some of the great work she is doing in the Mandarin section, it was truly remarkable. Thank you, Ms. Zhu for sharing that with me! You are a valued member of our team, and I truly appreciate your contributions." - Leticia Larancuent, Vice President, GLC

Jing Zhu





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Nariman Rizk



"I wanted to highlight Nariman's initiative during this time. She proposed to do 4 strands training for the Arabic section, focusing on newly hired instructors. This will be the first session of many. We value her initiative in going the extra mile on top of her full time teaching schedule. She is bringing in examples from our dialect curriculum to do this training; presenting vocabulary, doing fluency activities, grammar, output activities." - Government Technical Monitor (GTM)

Satya Nagarkoti Khadka



"Our Nepali class would not have been the same without Satya. Satya is an excellent instructor that worked with me to really improve my reading and speaking skills. She is an amazing motivator and encouraged me to push beyond my limits and improve my Nepali language skills. For example, she helped me express my opinions on complex matters by teaching me how to formulate proper Nepali sentence structure with difficult vocabulary. Perhaps some of her strongest points are her use of interactive media such as Power Points and videos. She is also very enthusiastic and shows her love for teaching by connecting with us on a personal level as well. I remember I had a lot of trouble pronouncing Nepali earlier in the year and Satya worked with me very hard to ensure I could fluently pronounce difficult." - Government Technical Monitor (GTM)





GLC Global
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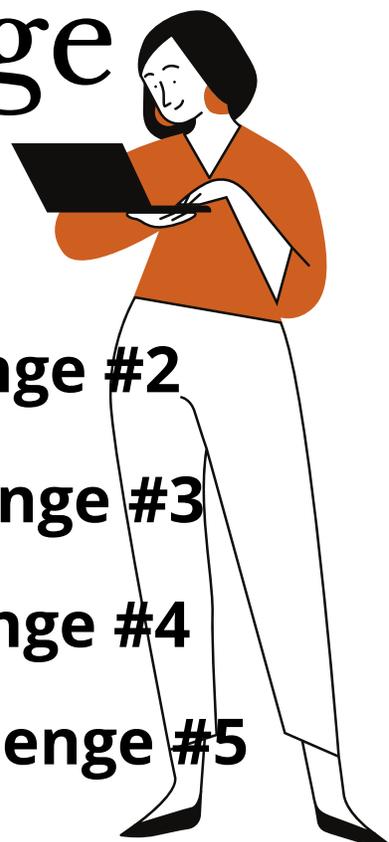
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C O N G R A T S

Virtual Challenge Winners



- Zeinab Wayyani, Arabic LI - Challenge #2**
- Rebecca Fink, German DLM - Challenge #3**
- Raquel Leong Paulo, Rater - Challenge #4**
- Lidia Bellod Sola, Spanish LT - Challenge #5**
- Anna Pechnikova, Russian LI - Challenge #6**
- Patrick Von Suskil, German LI - Challenge #7**
- PARTICIPATE AND WIN! - Challenge #8**

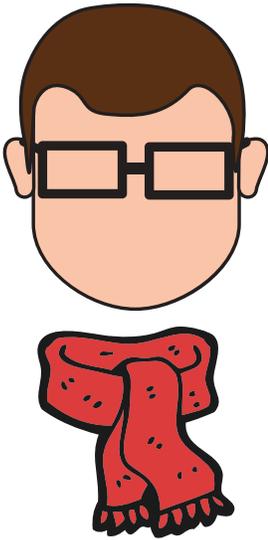


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On Ambiguity of Culture and Stereotypes

Iouri's Corner



Both stability and longevity imply little or no change, which is pertinent to the core of culture (values, beliefs, and basic assumptions), but not necessarily to its “outer” manifestations. The simple fact that there are so many subcultures in all cultures is a good example of both – a stable core and acceptable variations that are invariably present in any society. Cultures are complex – not just because of their uniqueness but also because societies where cultures exist are fragmented and multi-layered. Each of the following layers plays its sometimes not very clearly described role of becoming prominent to a various degree in the mosaic of personal cultural set-up:

<i>Layers and stages of cultural formation</i>	<input type="radio"/>	1-10
Corporate		
Professional		
Gender		
Class		
Generational		
Educational		
Religious		
Family		
Ethnic		
Regional		
National		



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The “Layers” exercise

As we navigate the staircase of their identity formation, they have a lot of different options at every step. This creates a sizable potential for one’s cultural portrait. To experience the “multi-layer challenge,” try to choose and mark (!) just two layers that have played the most important role in “what” you have become at the current state of your development. Alternatively, you can assign a numeric rating of importance to each layer to see a larger picture. Choosing the two layers might be not very difficult, since it is usually intuitive enough; explaining your choices would certainly take more effort but will be an enlightening experience.

There is more to the ambiguity of culture than the variety of choices. A deeper cause of cultural ambiguity can be attributed to the inherent human ability to embrace inner contradictions. F. Scott Fitzgerald noted that a true sign of intelligence is the ability to hold two opposing ideas at the same time and to be able to retain the ability to function. It is probably caused by those ubiquitous “conflicting intentions,” “competing values,” and “contradicting perceptions.” Realizing the positive nature of inner contradictions can and should liberate individuals of sticking to “yes or no” strategies as a starting point of any thinking.

It could also facilitate a creation of a more inclusive team/group environments. Another undeniable evidence that cultures live in spite of their selective “use,” the constant modernization of lifestyles, and globalization of the human tribe, is the existence of cultural stereotypes. None of cultural layers escaped a destiny of being “typical” within a culture.



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The perfect European should be ... cooking like a Brit, talkative as a Finn, humorous as a German, driving like the French, technical as a Portuguese, flexible as a Swede, available as a Belgian, famous as a Luxembourger, patient as an Austrian, sober as the Irish, humble as a Spaniard, controlled as an Italian, generous as a Dutchman, organized as a Greek, and discreet as a Dane... There could be some variations of this "paradigm," if you asked those mentioned, but most Europeans I know (a lot) seem to agree, with a forgiving smile.



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There must be some truth in every joke, we say, otherwise it won't be funny. Sometimes it could be other way around – there is just a little of a joke: the balance shifts and we feel that such statements are more true than funny. That usually happens when we either judge too quickly or misjudge our new experiences. One of the most effective ways to learn about other cultures is, unfortunately, through critical incidents - cultural faux pas, which are viewed as improprieties by one side of an interaction. The magnitude of such incidents can vary from innocuous (mannerism, etiquette, dress code, ways of greeting, etc.) to much more consequential when cultures collide at deeper levels – unresolved misunderstandings and misperception, stalled negotiations, animosity and prolonged conflicts, and so forth. I have known talkative Finns and reserved Spaniards, humorous Germans and readily available Belgians. But it would be difficult for me to recall one person who could fit the proclaimed stereotype of his or her country/nation fully. By the same token, it has been immensely helpful to know, at least in very general sense, how people could be perceived as representatives of their culture.

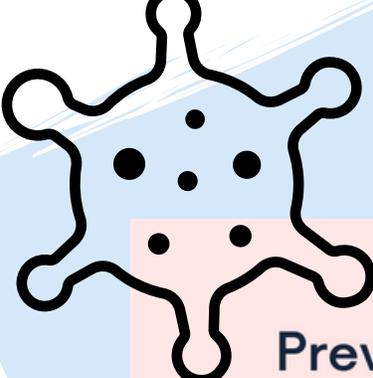
So, as far as I am concerned, ambiguity is to be embraced.
And long live stereotypes!

If used judiciously.

Best regards,

Iouri





Prevent the spread of COVID-19 in

7 STEPS

- 01** Wash your hands frequently
- 02** Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- 03** Cover your cough using the bend of your elbow or a tissue
- 04** Avoid crowded places and close contact with anyone that has fever or cough
- 05** Stay at home if you feel unwell
- 06** If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early — but call first
- 07** Get information from trusted sources





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Self-Care Bingo

TOOK A SHOWER	GOT DRESSED	CAUGHT UP WITH FRIENDS	PROCESSED MY FEELINGS	COMPLIMENTED MYSELF
MEDITATED	ATE GOOD FOOD	LISTENED TO MY BODY	HAD FUN	ASKED FOR HELP
TOOK A MUCH - NEEDED BREAK	DRANK WATER	<i>Free</i>	TAKE A SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	TREATED MYSELF
COMPLIMENTED SOMEONE	GOT 8 HOURS OF SLEEP	TOOK STEPS TO TAME NEGATIVE THOUGHTS	HUGGED MY PARENTS	DROPPED A HABIT THAT IS NOT FOR ME
TOOK A MENTAL HEALTH DAY	SPENDING TIME WITH NATURE	DECLUTTERED MY SPACE	WROTE DOWN IN MY JOURNAL	PRACTICED SELF - COMPASSION



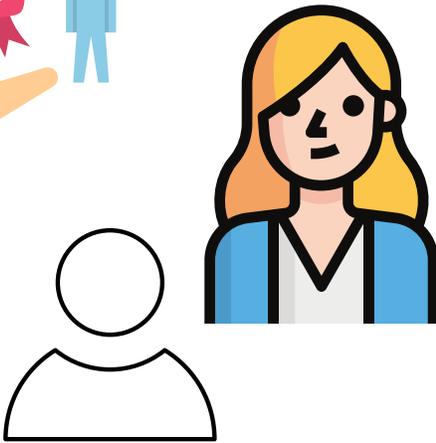


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AMY'S REFERRAL BONUS

\$275



Global Language Center is accepting candidates and referrals for language instructors, curriculum developers and testers. If a candidate is selected, both the person making the referral and the person being referred will each receive \$275.00. Candidates should send their resumes to Amy Murphy at glcrecruiting@slsoperations.com

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