

Unit 7 – Key Concepts

Acculturation: The process of cultural change that results from ongoing contact between two or more culturally different groups

Adjustment phase: Third stage of culture shock, in which people actively seek out effective problem-solving and conflict resolution strategies

Assimilation: Mode of acculturation in which an individual takes on the behaviors and language of the host culture while relinquishing ties with the native culture

Asylum seeker: A person who has left their home country as a political refugee and is seeking asylum in another

Conflict resolution: Two or more parties seeking to find a peaceful solution to a disagreement among them

Cultural schema: The familiar and pre-acquainted knowledge one uses when entering a familiar situation in his/her own culture

Culture shock: The effects associated with the tension and anxiety of entering a new culture, combined with the sensations of loss, confusion, and powerlessness resulting from the forfeiture of cultural norms and social rituals

Discourse: Conventionally, the use of words to exchange thoughts and ideas; in postmodern terms, a mode of organizing knowledge, ideas, or experience that is rooted in language and its concrete contexts

Expatriate: A person who lives outside their native country

Face negotiation theory: Theory first postulated by Stella Ting-Toomey to explain how different cultures manage conflict

Face: Favorable social impression that a person wants others to have of him or her

Facework: Behaviors or messages (verbal or non-verbal) that maintain, restore, or save face

Immigrant: Person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country

Integration: Mode of acculturation in which the individual develops a kind of bicultural orientation that successfully blends and synthesizes cultural dimensions from both groups while maintaining an identity in each group

Marginalization: Mode of acculturation in which one belongs neither to the dominant culture nor wholly to one's native culture

Mutual-face: Respect and dignity of the group as a whole (primary interest in collectivistic cultures)

Other-face: Paying attention to the needs and desires of the other party in a conflict

Pragmatic transfer: The influence of learners' pragmatic knowledge of language and culture other than the target language on their comprehension, production, and acquisition of L2 pragmatic information

Reentry shock: The effects associated with the tension and anxiety of returning to one's native culture after an extended stay in a foreign culture

Refugee: A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster

Self-face: Seeking one's own interest during conflict (primary interest in individualistic cultures)

Separation: Mode of acculturation in which there is voluntary segregation in ethnic group from dominant culture

Sojourner: Person staying for an extended period of time in a place as a traveler, student, or worker

Speech act: An utterance that has performative function in language and communication