

Sociology lesson plans for the week of 1/4/10 – 1/8/10

Monday 1/4/10

Warm-up: Brainstorm a list of the elements of culture. Use the pictures on page 70 to help you brainstorm.

Activities:

1. Read the story of Jabu on page 71 and have students identify the specific examples of culture in the story. What specific example is provided for the strong family bond in Jabu's life? What example is given of friendship? What example is provided of authority figures?
2. How do you resemble your parents, brothers and sisters? How has culture influences them? Do you parents dislike the music, movies and dress that you prefer?
3. Is fun relative to culture? What is your concept of fun? Can you identify how your ideas of fun are relative to your culture? What does it mean to have fun in "your own way?"
4. Divide into two groups nature and nurture and have the groups argue their points showing specific examples of their points
5. Read pages 71 – 75 and answer the questions on page 75
6. Discuss Sociobiology and eugenics
7. What environments favor a darker skin, blonde hair color, and a stocky body size?
8. Marshall McLuhan was a Canadian communications Theorist who stated the medium is the message. What does this mean? McLuhan claimed that we couldn't really perceive our own culture any more than a fish can perceive the water that it swims in. However, unlike fish, which cannot see other lakes, humans can see other cultures. This ability to see outside cultures allows us to gain an outside perspective from which to see our own culture. Who has traveled outside of this area? Make a skit that would tell the audience what you have learned about your own culture as a result of your travels.

Tuesday 1/5/10

Warm-up: What did T.S. Eliot mean when he noted, "We shall not cease from exploration/ And the end of all our exploring/ Will be to arrive where we started/ And know the place for the first time."

Activities:

1. Read page 76 and answer questions. Write a page about some aspect of everyday American life from the Nacirema perspective.
2. Fill in the following proverbs
 - a. The pen is mightier than _____
 - b. Better safe than _____
 - c. It's always darkest before _____
 - d. Don't bite the hand that _____
 - e. No news is _____
 - f. If you lie down with dogs, you'll _____
 - g. A penny saved is a _____
 - h. None are so blind as _____
 - i. Children should be seen and not _____
 - j. Better late than _____

Why do you know these? What is their value?

3. wedding ring and a stapler Describe the objects in terms of their functions
4. Rename the objects. What problems could be encountered by changing the name of an object.
5. Read pages 77 – 79 and do the questions on page 79
6. Are Americans dependent on time to do everything? Native Americans didn't have the same value of time so they were more often than not late for treaty negotiations. How might this have been viewed by American government officials?
7. For a line in front of the room by birth order. Do not talk.
8. Language is the cornerstone of culture and that is how it is transmitted. It doesn't always have to be spoken it can be spoken, written, and non verbal

Wednesday 1/6/10

Warm-up: You are invited to dinner at a dignitary's home from another culture. It is customary to have steaming bowls of soup for the first course. The soup is put down in front of your three year old and other very young children at the tables. The three year olds are expected to blow on it to cool it and then eat it. What do you think of this?

Activities:

1. Read pages 81 – 91 and answer questions on pages 85 and 91.
2. Discuss W.G. Sumner and the "forgotten Man" What Social Classes Owe to Each Other attacks the use of wealth to acquire legislative privileges. Sumner believed the powerless were exploited for the benefit of the privileged. He saw private capital and private property as guarantors of civil liberty and equal freedom.
3. In pairs identify 10 common folkways. Have class identify if they are in fact a folkway.
4. Who sets the standards for beauty? Girls identify 10 things that boys think make a girl beautiful and boys make a list of 10 things that girls think make a man handsome
5. Look at the Margaret Meade quote on page 83.
6. Act out folkways, mores, and laws. What type of norm was enacted and whether it was acceptable and if a consequence is needed.
7. Create a pamphlet to give to foreign exchange students to make their visits to the Munising easier.
8. Laws usually grow out of mores. Which mores will probably be enacted into law?

Thursday 1/7/10

Warm-up: According to Robin Williams research in the 1970's the following are the basic values of the U.S.: achievement/sues, activity/work, efficiency/practicality, equality, democracy, and group superiority. Are these still the same today; are these values multicultural, do they cross-racial and ethnic boundaries?

Activities:

1. Write at least a paragraph that summarizes the chapter. Make sure you discuss the meaning of norms and rules and the types of norms, the meaning of sanctions and examples of positive and negative ones, where norms come from and how much influence they have on society, and examples of the American value system
2. Select an activity that you enjoy. Analyze the activity according to its material and nonmaterial aspects
3. Make a list of things that our society once believed but doesn't believe today.
4. What does the word belief mean?
5. What is netting? Hot dog and bun.
6. Is cheating on an exam good or bad? Not cheating is an ideal, but in reality many people do it. Why is there a gap between ideal and real culture? Make a list of 5 other gaps between ideal and real culture.
7. Read pages 92 – 102 and answer questions on pages 94, 97, 99, 101, 102, 103

Friday 1/8/10

Test on chapter 3