

ASSIGNMENT: Assimilation vs. Acculturation

OBJECTIVES: **LEARN HOW TO ANALYZE DIFFERENT CULTURES, LEARN HOW TO CREATE A GRAPHIC ORGANIZER FOR PARAGRAPH ESSAY, WRITE A COMPARE/CONTRAST ESSAY**

Steps to Take:

1. TAKE CORNELL NOTES:

***What is culture?** Culture consists of the guiding thoughts and traditions of a certain group of people, thoughts and traditions that include many different aspects, such as: 1) Language/Literature, 2) Dress—Clothing, Hairstyles, 3) Religious Beliefs, 4) Food—Cuisine, 5) Music, 6) Dance...among other things.

***What is cultural assimilation?** “Assimilation” (by itself) means becoming a part of something, or, integrating into something. “Cultural Assimilation” means becoming a part of the main or dominant culture and thereby giving up aspects of your own minority culture...and taking on the characteristics of the dominant culture. This is the idea of “the melting pot”...no matter what a person’s original ethnic identity, he or she “melts into the –usually white—mainstream of society.” Some people think of this as “selling out” your own ethnic identity.

***What is the dominant culture?** The dominant culture is the main or ruling culture in a society. In the USA, the White culture is the dominant culture. When a minority person “sells out,” he or she hides or gets rid of the aspects of his/her original ethnic identity and “tries to look and act White.” Example: He or she might stop speaking Spanish and only speak English.

***What is acculturation?** Acculturation is preserving your own minority ethnic sub-culture. This means that you value your own original minority culture, and you are not willing to give it up or “sell out.” This is because you are proud of your original ethnic culture. Acculturation is like society being viewed – not like a melting pot – but, rather, like “a mixed salad”...in which each part keeps its own separate identity...creating a colorful mixture...that is *not* all melted together. Sub-cultures, or, minority cultures in the USA include: 1) African-Americans, 2) Mexican-Americans, 3) Native-Americans, 4) Asian-Americans, and so forth.

2. WRITE PERFECT PARAGRAPH:

-Write a Perfect Paragraph of 5-Sentences...with Main Idea and Details, Conclusion at the bottom of the page of Cornell Notes...using your notes about assimilation, acculturation, etc.

3. FILL OUT CHART: “LANGUAGE OF CULTURES”

- Go to page 9, Springboard text
- Work in Small Groups
- Help each other learn the definitions of the Cultural Vocabulary Words
- Complete the chart

4. COMPLETE: VENN DIAGRAM:

- Get or make a graphic of a Venn Diagram
- Analyze the Similarities and Differences between assimilation and acculturation
- Fill out the Venn Diagram...using the Aspects of Culture (from Cornell Notes)
As the “Similarities” in the Venn Diagram

5. LEARN HOW TO MAKE A GRAPHIC ORGANIZER for a 5-PARAGRAPH ESSAY:

- Create 5 separate boxes on a full sheet of paper...each represents a paragraph
- Label the boxes/paragraphs: Introduction, Body, Conclusion
- Put in the Transition Words with correct punctuation:
 - 1) Body Paragraphs: First, Next, Finally, (or other relevant transition words)
 - 2) Conclusion Paragraph: In conclusion,
 - 3) Note where the Title goes – centered at top of page after name/period (upper right)

6. LEARN HOW TO MAKE A GRAPHIC ORGANIZER for the INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH

- Draw a funnel-shaped “V” ... use the whole page...representing the fact that the introductory paragraph goes From General Topic to Specific Thesis
- Start at the top and write in these words:
 - Introduce the General Top
 - Provide Details about the general topic
 - If you are working with a text, provide the correctly punctuated Title and the Full Name of the Author
 - Quickly summarize the Text...state what issues are being addressed in it
 - Transition to Thesis Statement
 - Thesis Statement is a Specific Statement that is my Position/Argument...that I will provide evidence for...in this essay.
****The Thesis is the *heart* of the essay. Draw a little heart at bottom of the “V” – shaped funnel

7. WRITE COMPARE/CONTRAST ESSAY:

- 1) Write **Draft #1**...Fill out – handwritten -- your Graphic Organizer

for 5-Paragraph Essay

- Make sure that there are five (5) paragraphs.
- Make sure that *Each paragraph* must have **five (5) sentences**.
- Make sure the **minimum length of your essay is: 25 sentences**

2) Type **Draft #2** ...Go to Library, Word Process Draft #2

3) **Peer Edit** your Draft #2 – Work with a Partner to make sure that you:

- *Make sense...your sentences follow logically
- *Have correct spelling, punctuation, grammar

4)Finalize **Draft #3**

- Make sure your Final Draft has a **Title** ... Title must be related to your Thesis
- Make sure your Final Draft is **double-spaced** throughout
- Make sure your Final Draft is – *minimally* – **25 sentences** long
- Make sure your Final Draft has been completely **EDITED**
- Number your pages** in the upper-right hand corner

5)Create Your **Final Packet**

Place your typed Draft #3 on top...with all previous drafts underneath...as well as all Preliminary Writing in the packet (Cornell Notes, Venn Diagram, 5-Paragraph Organizer, Intro Paragraph Organizer)