

Global Cultures

CHAPTER 3

SECTION 2

What is Culture?

- Culture: the way of life of a group of people who share similar beliefs and customs
 - Language?
 - Religion?
 - What are the smaller groups?
 - Daily life?
 - History?
 - Arts?
- Geographers, anthropologists, and archaeologists all study culture?

What is Culture?

- Social Groups
 - We all belong to many social groups
 - Socialization- the process by which people adjust their behavior to meet the “rules” of a social group
 - Everyone has a social status (importance or rank)
 - Family social group

What is Culture?

- Social Groups (cont'd)
 - Ethnic group (share a language, history, religion, and some physical traits)
 - US combines national culture with many ethnic cultures
 - Ethnocentrism- the belief that your ethnic group is superior to others
 - Extreme ethnocentrism leads to hatred and persecution of others

What is Culture?

- Language
 - Dialect- local form of a language that may have a distinct pronunciation or vocabulary
 - 2,000 languages worldwide- grouped into language families

What is Culture?

- Religion
 - Help people answer basic questions about life's meaning
 - 100s of religions
 - 5 major religions- 4.5 billion followers, 2/3 of world
 - Buddhism
 - Christianity
 - Hinduism
 - Islam
 - Judaism

What is Culture?

- History
 - Shapes a culture's self-image
 - Develops values, pride, and unity
 - Cultural holidays help celebrate heritage

What is Culture?

- Daily Life
 - What food you eat and how you eat it
 - What type of home you live in
 - The clothing you wear

What is Culture?

- Arts
 - Music, painting, sculpture, dance, literature, etc
 - Expressions of what is important to a culture

What is Culture?

- Government
 - Needed to avoid conflict
 - Limited- restricts power of leaders (ex: democracy- power held by the people)
 - Unlimited- leaders of unlimited power (ex: dictatorship)