

WORLD CULTURES
Learning Unit No. 1
The Concept of Culture

NAME _____

Outcomes:

- **To develop a body of vocabulary (lexicon) necessary for the systematic study of culture.**
- **To become aware of both the obvious and subtle ways in which societies vary.**

General Terms

biological inheritance/cultural heritage
culture/society
Anthropology (physical, cultural)
demography
cultural universal
institution
agrarian/pastoral/nomadic
ethnocentrism (jingoism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia)

Religion

monotheism/polytheism/atheism
deity
animism
five major religions
Hinduism
Buddhism (Theravada, Mahayana)
Judaism (Reform, Conservative, Orthodox)
Christianity (Protestant, Catholic, Eastern Orthodox)
Islam (Sunni, Shiite)

Education

enculturation (socialization)
cultural diffusion (acculturation)
formal/informal education
literate/nonliterate/illiterate

Economics

traditional economy
market economy
command economy
mixed economy

Social Structure

stratification (class system)
social mobility (caste system)
role/class/status (status symbol)
more/norm/folkway
authoritarian)

Government

democracy (republic)
dictatorship (autocratic, totalitarian,

Courtship and Marriage

monogamy/polygamy (polygyny, polyandry)
dowry/bridewealth (brideprice)
exogamy/endogamy

Family

nuclear (conjugal)/extended (consanguine)
kinship system (patrilineal, matrilineal, bilineal)
primogeniture
clan (totemism)
patriarchal/matriarchal
patrilocal/matrilocal

HINT: *The key to success in this unit is not only knowing the definition of these terms, but being able to apply them in the context of analyzing societies.*