

UNIT 5: CULTURAL IDENTITY

READING: Cultural identity in modern society

VOCABULARY

1. **to take smt for granted:** coi điều gì đó là hiển nhiên
2. **define (v):** định nghĩa
3. **identifier (n):** định danh, nhận dạng
4. **to acquire:** có được, mua được
5. **to be exposed to:** được tiếp xúc với, được làm quen với
6. **to inherit:** thừa hưởng
7. **to confine:** hạn chế, giới hạn

1. Complete the sentences with their correct form

integrate

aspect

for granted

cultural identifier

1. He had taken it _____ that his friend would tell the truth
2. _____ are characteristics shared by individuals belonging to the same group or community.
3. When he studied abroad, he successfully _____ into the local culture.
4. His book covers all _____ of a migrant's life.

2 Read the passage about cultural identity. Four sentences have been removed from the passage. Choose a sentence (a-d) to complete each gap (1-4)

- a. On the other hand, there are people who choose to abandon their heritage culture and assimilate into the new culture of the majority.
- b. Cultural identity is usually understood as the identity or feeling of belonging to a group that has its own culture.
- c. However, people often do not confine themselves to one culture.
- d. The first stage, known as unexamined cultural identity, occurs during childhood, when culture is taken for granted.

There are various studies on cultural identity. (1) _____.

Individuals usually define themselves by cultural identifiers such as nationality, ethnicity, location, history, language, gender, beliefs, customs, clothing and food. It is suggested that cultural identity develops in three stages. (2) _____.

Cultural ideas and values provided by families, communities or the media are easily accepted without much critical thinking. In the second stage, called the cultural identity search, teenagers may become more curious, and willing to explore, analyse and compare their beliefs with other cultures. When people develop a clear sense of cultural identity, know which social group they belong to and feel satisfied with their cultural identity, they reach the final stage called cultural identity achievement. Living in their own country, people can easily acquire and maintain their cultural identity because they are fully exposed to different aspects of their native culture. They inherit their ancestors' history, knowledge, language, beliefs, values, and customs, which have been passed from one generation to the next one. (3) _____.

In the age of globalisation, access to the Internet and the media provides instant contact with many cultures. A person's cultural identity may be influenced by certain aspects of other cultures. When people move to a new culture, they may react differently. Some people feel a strong urge to keep their cultural identity, so they continue speaking their language, cooking their food, wearing their traditional clothing, and celebrating their festivals. They also insist that their children and grandchildren maintain their cultural identity. (4) _____.

Yet, there are people who integrate into the new cultural environment while keeping their own cultural identity and flexibly adjusting to the different aspects of the new culture.

Task 3. Read the passage again and answer the questions

1. How do individuals define themselves?

- A. By cultural identifiers such as nationality, ethnicity, and location
- B. They define themselves by history, language, and gender.
- C. They define themselves by nationality, ethnicity, location, history, language, gender, beliefs, customs, clothing and food.
- D. By cultural identifiers such as beliefs, customs, clothing and food.

2. Choose the best answer.

- A. In the first stage, children take culture for granted, and accept cultural ideas and values without much critical thinking.
- B. In the second stage, people develop a clear sense of cultural identity
- C. In the second stage, teenagers may become more curious, and willing to explore, analyze and compare their beliefs with other cultures.
- D. A & B are correct.

3. When do people reach the final stage?

- A. When they develop a clear sense of cultural identity, know which social group they belong to, and feel satisfied with their cultural identity.
- B. When they have lived in that country for twenty years.
- C. When they integrate into the new cultural environment.
- D. When they return to their own country.

4. Why can people's cultural identity be affected by other cultures even if they live in their native country?

- A. Because the development of global tourism provides contact with many cultures.
- B. Because access to the Internet and the media provides instant contact with many cultures.
- C. Because teenagers want to learn how to understand cultural differences.
- D. Because of the development of foreign films on SBS or Netflix.

5. What are the three ways people react when they move to a new culture?

- A. they keep their cultural identity
- B. they assimilate into the new culture of the majority.
- C. they integrate into the new cultural environment
- D. All above are correct.