



# Cultural Awareness for TRAVELLERS



WEEK 6.  
LANGUAGE  
AND CULTURE



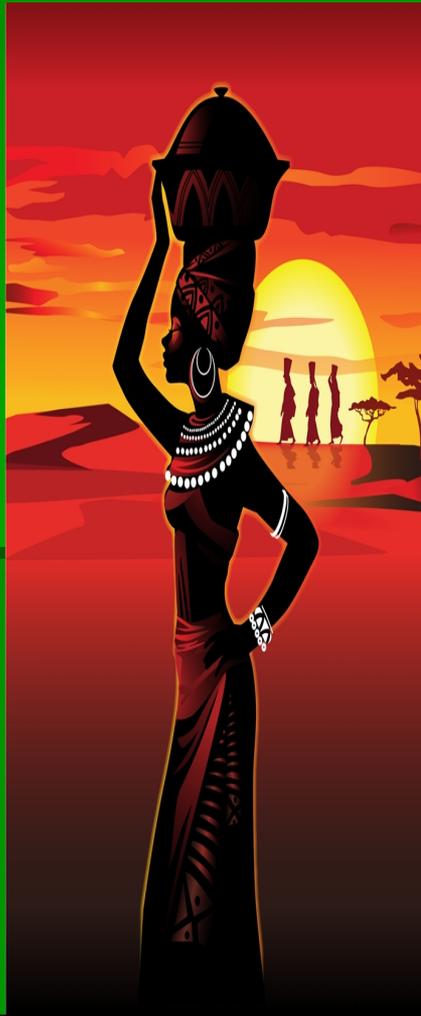
# Language Functions



1. Encode experiences, understand world and selves  
2. Engage actively with others, express feelings  
3. learn culture  
4. social cohesion  
5. express identity  
6. Words are only symbols and are arbitrary- usage not convention?  
6. meanings literal (objective “tree”) and emotional (subjective “love”)  
7. People who spk diff languages often perceive world in diff ways (Sapir & Whorf) examples p272 LANGUAGE variations: Accents, Dialects, Argot, Slang, Idioms  
Texting acronyms (Quiz follows) change often.

# 1. Which one of the following cultures delights in lengthy orations and debates?

- A. Korean
- B. British
- C. African
- D. Filipino.



## 2. Individuals from Arab cultures often speak with a/n .....rhetorical style?

- A. brief
- B. humble
- C. exaggerated
- D. simple p281-2



### 3. In Great Britain language is interspersed with what to avoid harsh confrontations?

- A. pauses
- B. euphemisms
- C. personal pronouns
- D. stories
- p278





Santa's  
Workshop

I'M GOING TO  
HAVE TO LET  
YOU GO

Kipper  
Williams

**4. Sarah says to her friend “I’ve done that many times myself” What feature of women’s communication is this?**

- A. responsiveness
- B. symmetry
- or equality
- C. conversational maintenance
- D. showing support



## 5. Women's speech is characterized by all except which practice?

- A. personal concrete details
- B. problem-solving
- C. tentativeness
- D. asking questions



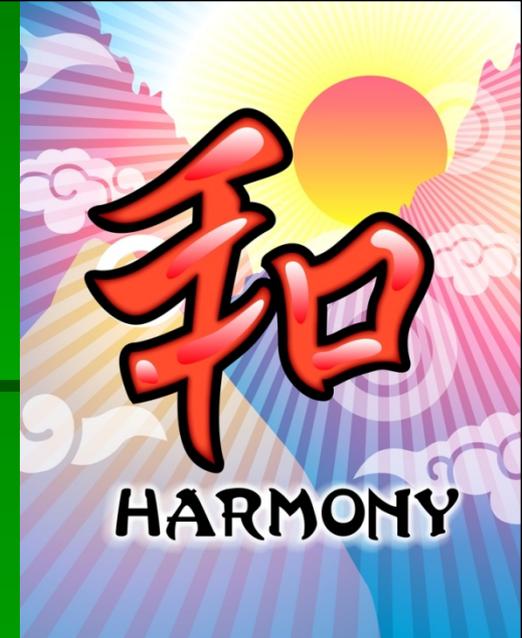
## 6. The 500 most used words in English can produce over..

- A. 5000 different meanings
- B. 10000 different meanings
- C. 14000 different meanings
- D. 20000 different meanings



# 7. Regarding “directness”, which is false?

- 1. Americans are unusually direct, blunt and honest.
- 2. Most cultures are less direct than Americans to preserve the dignity of others.
- 3. In Mexico directness and honesty are more important than harmony and face-saving
- 4. In East Asia directness often clashes with the maintenance of social harmony.



# 8. In general women are more concerned than men with?

- 1. exerting control
- 2. getting the job done
- 3. personal relationships
- 4. being assertive



# 9. Japanese culture is bound by rigid rules that..

- A. govern social relationships
- B. govern social status
- in all aspects of life
- C. govern the social structure of language
- D. govern separate vocabularies for superiors, peers and inferiors
- E. All of the above are true.



# Discussion topics and activities:



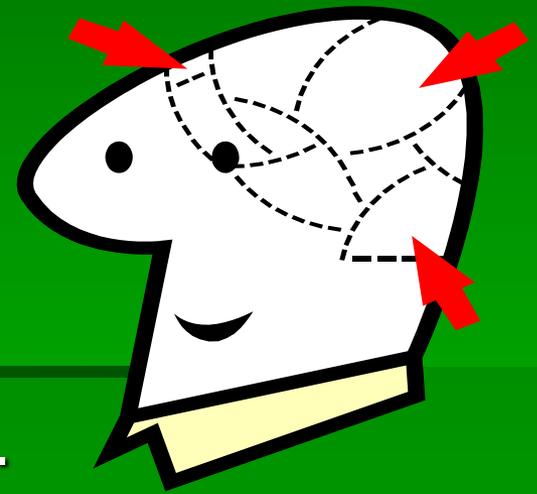
- 1. Azmniag huh? **EXPERIMENT**
- Lost in Translation? **ADVERTS** caused controversy.
- 2. Directness, status, attitudes to talk. **ACTIVITY :ROLE PLAY**  
Group discussion using different styles.
- 3. Language diversity; co-cultures, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish & German Arabs and women. Others?
- 4. Jargon, Argot, Slang, Idioms, Texting **QUIZ**
- 5. 6. Two Kenyan **CASE STUDIES.**
- 7. Foreign language learning- an experience and **DISCUSSION groups-** your foreign language learning experiences.

# Amzanig huh?



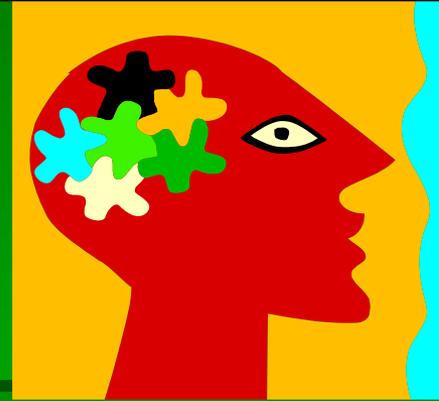
Believe it or not you can read this.

# I cdnuolt blvieve that I cluod aulacly

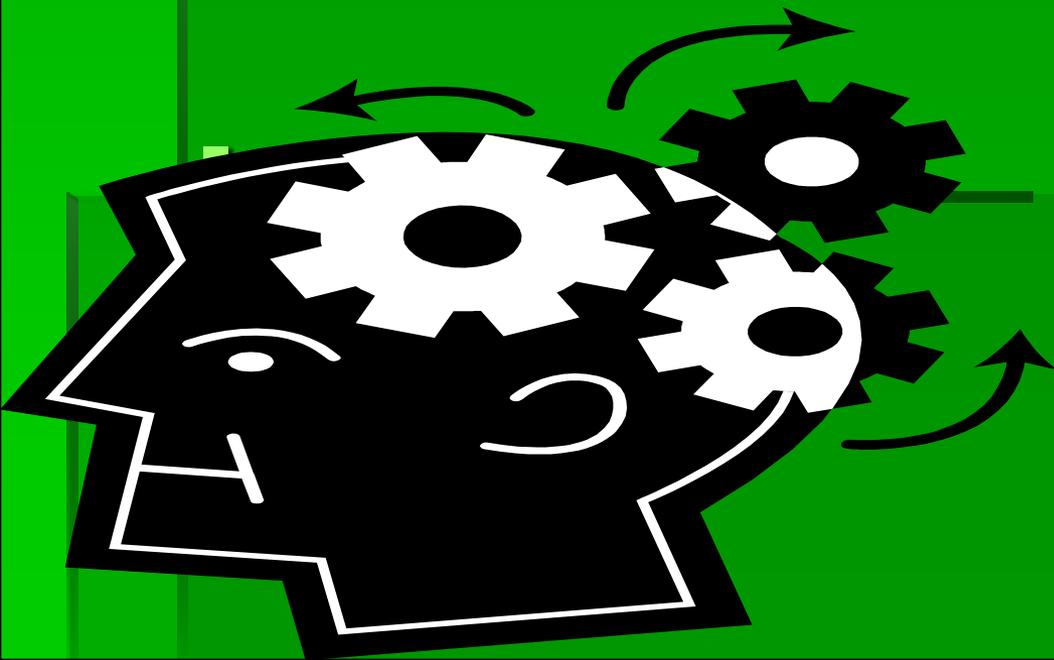


- uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg.
- The phaeomneal pweor of the hmuan mind, aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, fnoud that it deosn't mttae in what oredr the ltteers in a word are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. Why?

# Because the human mind



- does not read every letter by itself, but the word as a whole.
- True?



# Hullo in Different Languages !



Malo e lelei	Talofa	Bula	Ohayo	Selamat pagi
Sawat di khrap	Shah wu how	Chao ong/ba	Sabaai dii	Sohk sabaay
Namast e	Dumela mma/ra	Bonjour	Gruess Gott	Guata Morga
Buon giorno	Hola/ol a	Goei emere	Dag	Dzien Dobry
Szia	Yasu	Dobry den	PLEASE ADD	Yours HERE

# Language Learning !



- Discussion Questions:
- 1. What languages other than your native tongue have you learned (even basic)?
- 2. Have they been useful to you? Might they be one day?
- 3. What methods helped you as a learner?
- 4. What methods turned you off?

# Lost in Translation

كل عام وأنتم بخير

- “Ich bin ein Berliner”
- Coca-Cola (China)
- Vicks
- The Pope (Spain)
- Clairol Mist Stick
- Schweppes Tonic Water (Italy)
- Got Milk (Spain)
- Gerber Baby Food (Africa)
- Silicon Valley “Slay the Dragon”

# Conversation: Group experience:



- Culture A. Your culture believes talk=productivity.
- Silence is “a waste of time”. Ask questions or change the subject to avoid this. You like a decision at the end. You are very direct BUT like others about 3 feet away during conversation NOT “in your face”.

# Culture B.

- In your culture talking is
- not favoured. “He who
- talks knows nothing.
- ” Silence is the domain of the wise. You respect intuition and introspection. When you talk it is brief simple and eloquent. You do a lot of head-nodding and “uh-huhs”. You like lots of time for thinking and discussion before a decision is made.



# Culture C.

- In your culture eloquent speakers
- are highly respected.
- Conversation is like a dance
- with style and finesse.
- Language should be enjoyed at a leisurely pace. Your sentences are long and descriptive. It's OK to begin while others are talking. The decision or conclusion is not important. Your goal is to enjoy the conversation and the people. You like to get close while talking- 12-18 inches is just right.



# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who were the most dominating and reticent group members?
- 2. Who talked the most? Interrupted the most?
- 3. Who seemed the most intelligent? Why?
- 4. Did you feel comfortable/uncomfortable in your role?
- 5. Were there problems? Was the conversation enjoyable? productive?
- 6. How did you deal with these differences? Could it have been handled better?



# Jargon used by professions or groups:



- Corporate:  
Benchmark, Matrix org., Synergy, Gate-keeper, Value-added
- Gay:  
chicken, cottaging, bon-bon, Bill, bear
- Police:  
perp., vic.,  
10-4.DOA,APB.  
codes
- U.S.Marines:  
Army, beer 30, as you were, brain bucket
- Poker-players:  
Advertising, cold deck,  
check-out, dead man's hand
- Sociolinguistics:  
elaborated restricted

# Answers to Quiz:



- Gay: 1.young boy 2.public toilet sex 3.,sweet young 4.Bill= big masculine
- Police: 1. perpetrator 2.Affirmative/understood 3.dead on arrival 4. all points bulletin
- Marines: 1. not ready for marines 2. beer o'clock time for a 3. disregard 4. helmet
- Poker:1. info your style eg never bluff 2.stacked 3.fold 4. aces and 8's held by WB Hickok when murdered

# Idioms. words which when used together have difft. meaning



- 1. Hold your horses 2. You're like a bull in a china shop. 3. I had my eyes and ears peeled. 4. I got it from the grapevine. 5. He's got an axe to grind. 6. She is always making waves. 7. Red tape is holding up the new bridge. 8. She's just laid an egg.

# Idioms: 1. Be patient 2. clumsy/impulsive



- 3. listening and observing 4. heard it from others 5. a mission 6. making trouble 7. bureaucracy delaying. 8. made a mess
- Argot: 1. shoplifter 2. very smooth 3. prostitutes 4. pay-off/reward 5. seller stolen goods 6. history convictions 7. low-life 8. in hiding 9. debt-collector/thug

# Argot-jargon of criminal classes (Aus):C.Nyst(08)



- A Shoppie
- Chewed chook shit
- Dirty Girls
- A drink
- A Fence
- Form
- A Grub
- In deep snooker
- A Knuckle man
- Legman
- Porkies
- A Pox Doctor's Clerk
- A Roscoe
- A Penman
- To whack
- A second-storey man

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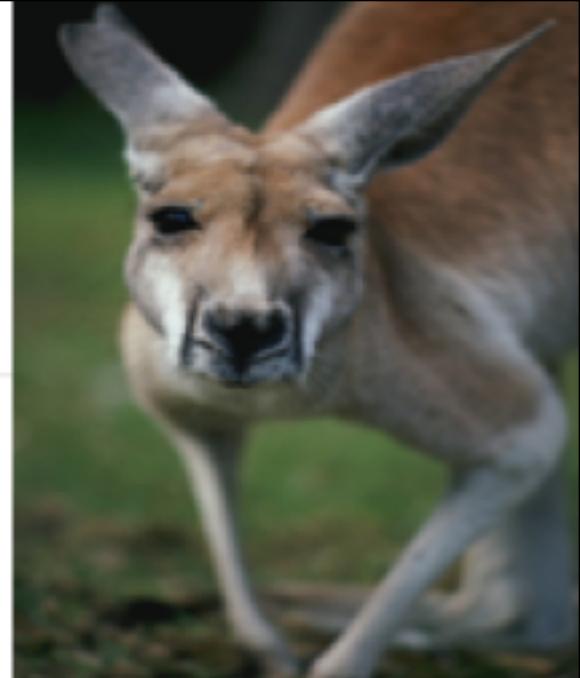
# Slang = informal specialist (Aus) expressions.

- An ankle-biter
- The ball and chain
- A banana-bender
- A Barcoo sandwich
- Bonzer
- The back of Bourke
- A Butcher's Hook
- Bacon & eggs
- To come the raw prawn
- To curl up one's toes
- It's snowing down south
- Flutter on the GG's
- Dragging the chain
- Shake hands with the unemployed



### 3. What does an Aussie mean?

- Bazza had a flutter on the
- gee gees with a grouse sheila
- with bonzer ham and eggs.
- His mate Bluey came the raw prawn and had a butchers hook at his ball and chain who was on the dog and bone but battling with the ankle-biters. Bazza was a banana-bender from the back of Bourke who dragged the chain at the bar before shaking hands with the unemployed, which doesn't get him a guernsey from his cobbers.



## Translation Aussie Slang

3. Bazza had a bet on the horses with a beautiful woman who had great legs.

His mate Bluey played a trick and had a look at his wife who was on the phone but battling with the children. Bazza was a Queenslander from the bush who got behind in his shout at the pub before going to the toilet, which doesn't make him popular with his mates.



# What does gen Y mean? 1980-1999



- .Rif tips for noobs....
- I recks your rents think you're inapropes, ridonc 'n awks but bible u r legit, hilar 'n amazeballs. Sozza ur selfie woz an epic fail but the boy is frothin 'n totes jel
- of the noob.
- Fo sho I'm solid because the rando is a puff shorty snap a qt. Meh/whatevs. I'm chillax n' fulla woot.
- Ur confuzzled but don't dis me or I'm gonna regulate.
- Don't be devo if he's mam or a skux. Let's vamoosh. I've just had a swipeout but YOLO.....

# GEN Y TRANSLATION:

- Great tips for newcomers....
- I think your parents think you're inappropriate, ridiculous & awkward but I swear to God you're legitimate, hilarious and really amazing. Sorry the photo you took of yourself was a disaster but the boy is very keen on you and totally jealous of the bookworm.
- For sure I agree because the unknown person is awesome & cute. Whatever I'm chilled and relaxed and joyful. You're confused & puzzled but don't disrespect me or I'm going to hurt you.
- Don't be devastated if he's cool. Let's get out of here.
- I've got no money in my bank account but you only live once...

# Teen slang(07)

## G.C.slang(08)



- Froth'n/ Book
- Meh
- Cakin'
- Sick
- Bluetool
- Girlfriend Voice
- Floordrobe
- Couching distance
- Toolie Nerangutan, Vain Beach, Trashmore,
- Lockyadoor,
- Bogan, Southpit
- Mexicans
- Devoed/Stoked
- Scrubber/Slapper
- Shark Biscuit/Eskey Lid
- Grommit/Kook

# 10. Courier 11.lies

# 12.well-dressed

# 13. pistol



- 14. forger 15.kill
- 16. housebreaker/burglar
- Auslang: young kid; wife;
- Qlder; thick sandwich; special;
- far outback; look; legs; try to trick; die;
- petticoat showing; bet on horses; too slow; urinating (m)

- Teen slang: 1.cool; 2. who cares;3. long talk phone/hanging out 4. cool; 5. earpiece to look impt 6.change in voice talking to sig.other .7.clothes on ground 8. distance reach without leaving c. 9. older predator schoolies 10. places on GC 11. Victorians/NSW's 12.devastated/wrapped; 13. young chick ( a bit rough);14. boogie board 15. new surfer

## HOW DID YOU GO????

- 
- NEXT WEEK: WEEK 7
- NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION
- The messages of Action, Space, Time and Silence
- Seeya then !



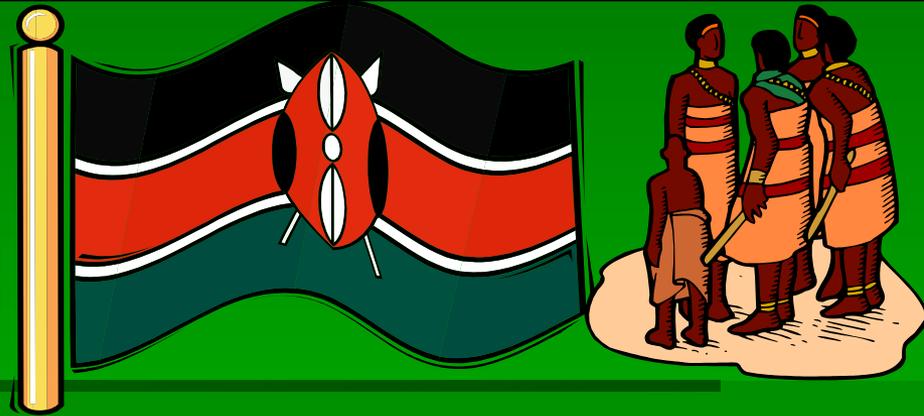
# Texting acronyms p276

- ROF = Rolling on the floor
- DSTO (VET) = Dog smarter than owner
- TMI = Too much information
- WTF = What the ?
- SC = Stay cool
- CUL = See you later
- SUX = It sucks
- KIT = Keep in touch
- WTG = Way to go
- AMOF = As a matter of fact..
- ZUP = What's up?
- PIR =parent in room

# ANU Aust Natnl Dictionary Centre Report

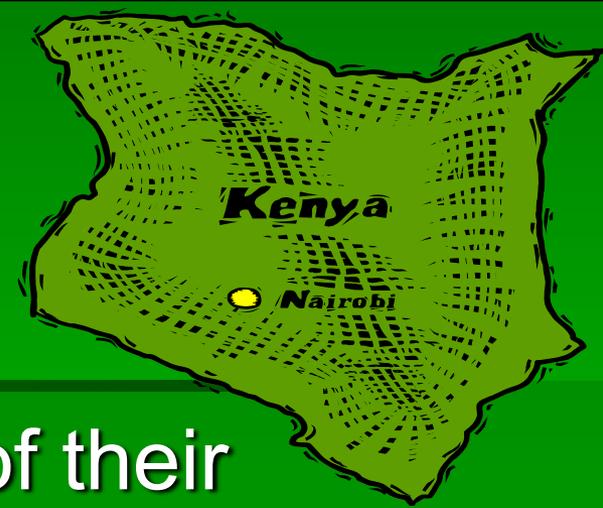
- New words 2018
- FIFO
- “Bag rage” (end of plastic bags)
- “To banana” (Theatre)
- Word of year- “Canberra Bubble”
- “Dinkum” was a British dialect word.
- “To munge it” = data transformation
- “To baulk” = to see someone doesn’t succeed in politics”
- “Fake news” Is there any other kind?
- OTHERS?

# Two Kenyan Case Studies:



- Joanna was a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya. One day she struck up a conversation with Kimani who wanted to know about the US. She told him she was glad to have found a friend. Kimani stopped at her house next day and stayed for hours. Soon he came regularly, bringing gifts. Joanne was worried. She asked him about his intentions. “ I just want to be friends. That’s why I visit and bring gifts.”

# Discussion questions:



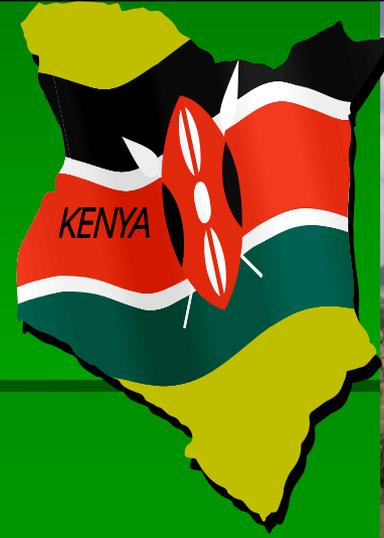
- 1. What word is the cause of their confusion?
- 2. Why are they miscommunicating?
- 3. How would you continue the dialogue to solve this intercultural dilemma?

# Explanation:



- The word “friend” can have additional meanings for Kenyans besides denoting an individual with whom one has a platonic relationship (the typical western definition). For many Kenyans, to say that someone of the opposite sex is their friend can also mean that they are having a romantic or intimate relationship with that person.

# Michael came to teach in Kenya.



- Charles, a student visited him after class. They talked and drank tea together. As Charles departed Michael said, “See you later!” Next day in class, Charles came up to Michael, looking confused.
- “Mwalimu, I waited for you but you never came.”
- “Was I supposed to meet you somewhere, Charles?”
- “I thought you were coming to visit me at my home.”
- “ I don’t remember that. Are you sure?”

# Discussion Questions:



- 1. What phrase caused the confusion?
- 2. Why are they mis -communicating?
- 3. What would you say next to solve this intercultural dilemma?
- 4. Why did they attribute different meanings to the same word?
- 5. What do experience and culture have to do with it?
- 6. Can you see how language and experience are linked?

# Explanation:



- The common leave-taking phrase in the West, “See you later” was misunderstood here. Charles obviously took it literally. Michael did not even remember using it, because he said it almost unconsciously and was using it only to mean “goodbye” or “until we meet again”.

# Next week:



- Non-Verbal Communication and Culture!
- ACTION,SPACE,TIME & SILENCE !
- Bring your favourite stories about gestures which get you into trouble when travelling..
- AVANICEWEEGEND (and don't forget the aerogard) ! Peter M.

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