CH. 1: EXPLORING CULTURE

Sec. 1: What Is Culture?

Culture = the shared way of life of a group of people, including their food, clothing, beliefs, values, traditions, activities, and ways of expressing themselves.

Ethnic Culture

- connected to your family's background and traditions, such as food, religion, music, celebrations, and history.

Youth Culture

- shared by young people, including things such as music, fashion, activities, and language.

Popular Culture

- things that are popular with many people, such as entertainment, fashions, foods, and trends.

Techno Culture

- the way technology affects how people live, communicate, learn, and spend their time.

School Culture

- the traditions, activities, values, and behaviours shared by people in a school.

Individuals and Culture

- Culture influences who we are, but it does not completely define us. Each person has their own personality, interests, and choices.

Key Idea

We can belong to many cultures at the same time, and all of them can influence the way we live.

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Sec. 2: Material and Non-Material Culture

Material Culture

- Material culture is the physical things connected to a culture that we can see or touch, such as clothing, food, buildings, tools, and technology. EG: in school the furniture, classrooms, equipment.

Non-Material Culture

- Non-material culture is the ideas and beliefs shared by people, such as values, religion, traditions, music, rules, and ideas about what is important. EG: in school the rules, traditions, teamwork, school spirit

Key Idea

Culture is complex: people who belong to the same culture do not all believe, like, or do the same things.

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Sec.3: Common Elements of Culture pp. 11-13

Culture is the shared way of life of a group of people.

- **Beliefs and Values** – The ideas people have about what is important, right, and how people should live.
- **Government** – The way a society is organized, led, and makes rules and decisions.
- **Economy** – The way people make a living and get the goods and services they need and want.
- **History** – The events of the past that help shape a group's culture and identity today.
- **Expressions of Culture** – The ways people show their culture through things like language, music, art, stories, clothing, sports, and traditions.
- **Technology** – The tools, machines, and inventions people create and use to make life easier or solve problems.

Environment

- **Environment** – The climate, land, plants, and other natural features that influence how people live, including their food, clothing, homes, and transportation.

Important: The environment **influences culture**, but it is **not an element of culture** because people did not create it.

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Sec.4: How is Culture Passed On? pp. 15-18

Culture is passed from one generation to the next in many ways.

- Family – Families pass on traditions, stories, beliefs, and values.
- School – Schools teach knowledge, values, and ways of behaving.
- Peers – Friends influence how we behave and what we do.
- Media – Media teaches us about our own and other cultures, but it can be biased.
- Institutions – Organizations, events, and services help pass on culture.
- Oral History – Stories and knowledge are passed down by speaking and storytelling.
- Culture Changes – Culture changes over time as society and people's lives change.

Key Idea: Culture is learned, shared, and passed on, but it also changes over time.