Culture Conscious 1st edition White Test Bank

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TEST BANK

This test bank provides six test items per briefing—two true-false questions, two multiple-choice questions, and two essay questions. Answers are provided for all questions.

Briefing 1 – Unpacking Culture

1. A swimsuit is part of objective culture, but a group's attitude toward swimsuits is part of its subjective culture. *(The statement is TRUE.)*

2. Culture, nationality, and race are three terms that basically describe the same thing. *(The statement is FALSE.)*

3. Which of the following has NOT been proposed as a definition of culture?

   a. Culture is a unique meaning and information system.
   b. Culture is a society's sacred text, a collection of written rules concerning morality.
   c. Culture is the man-made part of the environment.
   d. Culture is society's memory, a storehouse of information that we use to navigate and make sense of the world.

   The correct answer is b.

4. A study that seeks to explain observed differences between cultural groups by measuring specific features or "ingredients" of culture is called _____.

   a. an ethnographic study
   b. a cross-cultural validation study
   c. an unpackaging study
   d. none of the above

   The correct answer is c.

5. As described in Briefing 1, what is the difference between objective culture and subjective culture?

   According to cultural psychologist Harry Triandis, objective culture (also called material culture) refers to the tangible features of culture—physical objects and the practices associated with those objects. Subjective culture (also called psychological culture) refers to a group's characteristic way of perceiving and thinking about its environment. Subjective culture includes attitudes, beliefs, and values. A cell phone is part of objective culture, but a group's attitude toward cell phones is part of its subjective culture.

6. What is an unpackaging study? Why is an unpackaging study superior to a study that simply documents a behavioral difference between two cultural groups?

Unlike a simple comparison of two cultural groups, an unpackaging study measures specific variables or "ingredients" of culture (cultural values and social norms, for example) that may explain, directly and concretely, an observed cultural difference. An unpackaging study documents a difference between cultural groups but also examines the reasons for the cultural difference.

Briefing 2 – Differences Between and Differences Within

1. A stereotype is an overgeneralized belief about a group of people. *(The statement is TRUE.)*

2. The differences within cultural groups are almost always smaller than the differences between cultural groups. *(The statement is FALSE.)*

3. Which of these distributions will have the most variability?

   a. The measured heights of all living persons.
   b. The measured heights of all boys and girls between the ages of 2 and 3.
   c. The measured heights of all male professional basketball players.
   d. It is not possible to answer the question from the information given.

   The correct answer is a.

4. When two distributions of scores overlap each other partly but not completely, we can infer that _____.

   a. the means (averages) of the two groups are identical
   b. the variability in one group is larger than the variability in the other group
   c. the distributions have different heights
   d. none of the above

   The correct answer is d.

5. Why do group labels such as "Asian American" reveal little about individual members of the group?

   Because group characteristics are not individual characteristics. Not all members of a group are typical of their group. The differences within cultural groups are almost always large. The label "Asian American," for example, refers to a group that is extremely diverse in terms of national origin, ethnicity, religious beliefs, spoken languages, and level of educational achievement.

6. Suppose Democrats and Republicans report their trust of government on a 100-point scale. Further suppose that the average score of Democrats is 70 and the average score of Republicans is 65. Why do we need information about the variability within both groups to determine if the 5-point difference is meaningful?

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If the scores within each group are all over the map, so to speak, then the 5-point difference between the groups probably is not meaningful in a practical sense. Knowing if a person is Democrat or Republican would not allow us to predict their trust in government with any precision or accuracy.

If the scores vary only a little within each group—if all the Democrats' scores fall between 69 and 71, for example, and all the Republicans' scores fall between 64 and 66—then we can confidently conclude that the 5-point difference between the groups is very meaningful. The Democrat and Republican distributions would not overlap, which means we could use political affiliation to predict trust in government with nearly flawless accuracy.

Briefing 3 – Is the World Becoming More Individualistic?

1. Collectivism emphasizes values such as loyalty, being concerned for the well-being of the group, and considering the implications for others of one's decisions. *(The statement is TRUE.)*

2. Researchers have found that about half the countries in the world are becoming more individualistic, whereas the other half are not changing or becoming less individualistic. *(The statement is FALSE.)*

3. In studies of different nations, which of the following is statistically associated with having individualistic values?

   a. A low divorce rate.
   b. A high percentage of people living in rural areas.
   c. A high percentage of jobs that are white-collar jobs.
   d. More frequent use of personal pronouns such as *we*, *us*, and *them*.

   The correct answer is c.

4. Which country is either becoming more individualistic or less individualistic, depending on the study?

   a. Canada
   b. China
   c. India
   d. Russia

   The correct answer is b.

5. Compare and contrast individualism and collectivism. How are they similar? How are they different?

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