

Culture Box Project

English II

Essential Question: What people, events, and traditions have shaped the cultural identity that I carry today?

As we continue our discussion about what factors contribute to and influence culture, you will be identifying and presenting key elements of your own culture that address and answer the essential question listed above. After discussing and brainstorming, you will create a Culture Box which characterizes your own culture. When creating and identifying artifacts to include on your box, you should address the following categories.

Required for all (please check off each requirement as it is complete):

- _____ Creator's full name
- _____ Picture of creator
- _____ Creative use of color which is meaningful/symbolic of creator's culture.
- _____ Ribbon attached at the top so that box is ready to display
- _____ The entire box is covered with artifacts and color (inside and outside).
- _____ Box displays easily (no three-dimensional, all items securely attached)
- _____ **All** items characterize the creator's culture (no fluff and glitter)

Categories (at least 8 of the 13 categories checked/represented):

_____ Origins

Where does your family originate? Where does your name originate? How do your family's origins play a role in your life (traditions, celebrations, etc.) What artifacts are passed down in your family? What will you or have you inherited that your hold dear?

_____ Language

What sayings and/or stories are unique to your family? Who is the family story keeper? How are stories documented in your family? What beliefs does your family hold about language? What quotes, works of fiction, Biblical verses, etc. hold meaning in your family?

_____ Birth/Formative Years

Where were you born? How did this influence you? What memories from childhood do you hold dear? How were you raised? What parenting style would you say that your parents proscribed to?

_____ Food Memories

What are some of your earliest food memories? What are some of your favorite foods? What role does food play in family get-togethers and celebrations? What foods are routinely served in your family? Where do you eat your meals?

_____ Home

What sounds are heard often in your home? What type of music can be heard in your home? What is your home like? (type, appearance, room functions) What art forms were in your home? Where do members of the family gather?

_____ People

What people have influenced who you are today? Who inside of your family has helped shape you? Who outside of your family has helped shape you?

_____ Beliefs

What religious beliefs were passed down to you? What superstitions do you believe in? What wives' tales/folk medicine traditions are practiced in your family? What beliefs does your family have about education? What beliefs does your family have about work?

_____ Behaviors

What role did/do manners play in your upbringing? What are the most important rules/manners that you were taught as a child? What behaviors are not acceptable in your family? What art forms do you use as a form of expression? How did your family influence these art forms?

_____ Travels

What role does travel play in your family? How have your travels influenced you? Does your family have travel traditions? What is a car ride like in your family?

_____ Recreation

How would you describe family time/get-togethers? How does your family engage in recreation? What activities does your family participate in?

_____ Immediate Family/Parents

What roles do your parents play (disciplinarian, provider, nurse, etc.)? How are decisions made? What are some routines in your family? How are responsibilities delegated in your family? How are chores delegated? What role do pets and animals play in your family?

_____ Holidays

What are some of your family holiday traditions? How do you celebrate birthdays? What foods are associated with specific holidays? Which holiday is the most important/most celebrated in your family?