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connected with the culture of a particular society or group, its customs, beliefs, etc.Teachers need to be aware of cultural differences.America's cultural diversitya cultural institution/centrecultural eventsa cultural exchange between Japan and Francea time of rapid social and cultural change.The industry needs a cultural shift to address the gender pay gap.your cultural identity/backgroundHis character represents the traditional cultural values of China.Many immigrants preserve their cultural traditions.the rich cultural history of New England see also cross-culturalExtra ExamplesSocial and cultural factors play a huge part in international marketing.The custom is deeply rooted in the religious and cultural heritage of the region.The exhibition reflects the cultural diversity of modern British society.The impact of the women's movement was essentially cultural.an attempt to promote traditional cultural valuesenormous social and cultural changes connected with art, literature, music, etc.a cultural eventEurope’s cultural heritageThe orchestra is very important for the cultural life of the city.She has become an American cultural icon. Word Originmid 19th cent.: from Latin cultura ‘tillage’ + -al.See cultural in the Oxford Advanced American DictionarySee cultural in the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English Culture is a term that refers to a large and diverse set of mostly intangible aspects of social life. According to sociologists, culture consists of the values, beliefs, systems of language, communication, and practices that people share in common and that can be used to define them as a collective. Culture also includes the material objects that are common to that group or society. Culture is distinct from social structure and economic aspects of society, but it is connected to them—both continuously informing them and being informed by them. Common cultures include those shaped by regional traditions, religious beliefs, and historical experiences. Culture is one of the most important concepts within sociology because sociologists recognize that it plays a crucial role in our social lives. It is important for shaping social relationships, maintaining and challenging social order, determining how we make sense of the world and our place in it, and shaping our everyday actions and experiences in society. It is composed of both non-material and material things. In brief, sociologists define the non-material aspects of culture as the values and beliefs, language, communication, and practices that are shared in common by a group of people. Expanding on these categories, culture is made up of our knowledge, common sense, assumptions, and expectations. It is also the rules, norms, laws, and morals that govern society; the words we use as well as how we speak and write them (what sociologists call "discourse"); and the symbols we use to express meaning, ideas, and concepts (like traffic signs and emojis, for example). Culture is also what we do and how we behave and perform (for example, theater and dance). It informs and is encapsulated in how we walk, sit, carry our bodies, and interact with others; how we behave depending on the place, time, and audience; and how we express identities of race, class, gender, and sexuality, among others. Culture also includes the collective practices we participate in, such as religious ceremonies, the celebration of secular holidays, and attending sporting events. Material culture is composed of the things that humans make and use. This aspect of culture includes a wide variety of things, from buildings, technological gadgets, and clothing, to film, music, literature, and art, among others. Aspects of material culture are more commonly referred to as cultural products. Sociologists see the two sides of culture—the material and non-material—as intimately connected. Material culture emerges from and is shaped by the non-material aspects of culture. In other words, what we value, believe, and know (and what we do together in everyday life) influences the things that we make. However, it is not a one-way relationship between material and non-material culture. Material culture can also influence the non-material aspects of culture. For example, a powerful documentary film (an aspect of material culture) might change people’s attitudes and beliefs (i.e. non-material culture). This is why cultural products tend to follow patterns. What has come before in terms of music, film, television, and art, for example, influences the values, beliefs, and expectations of those who interact with them, which then, in turn, influence the creation of additional cultural products. Culture is important to sociologists because it plays a significant role in the production of social order. The social order refers to the stability of society based on the collective agreement to rules and norms that allow us to cooperate, function as a society, and live together (ideally) in peace and harmony. For sociologists, there are both good and bad aspects of social order. Rooted in the theory of classical French sociologist Émile Durkheim, both material and non-material aspects of culture are valuable in that they hold society together. The values, beliefs, morals, communication, and practices that we share in common provide us with a shared sense of purpose and a valuable collective identity. Durkheim revealed through his research that when people come together to participate in rituals, they reaffirm the culture they hold in common, and in doing so, strengthen the social ties that bind them together. Today, sociologists see this important social phenomenon happening not only in religious rituals and celebrations like (some) weddings and the Indian festival of Holi but also in secular ones—such as high school dances and widely attended, televised sporting events (for example, the Super Bowl and March Madness, both of which one could consider part of American culture). Famous Prussian social theorist and activist Karl Marx established the critical approach to culture in the social sciences. According to Marx, it is in the realm of non-material culture that a minority can maintain unjust power over the majority. He reasoned that subscribing to mainstream values, norms, and beliefs keeps people invested in unequal social systems that do not work in their best interests, but rather, benefit the powerful minority. Sociologists today see Marx's theory in action in the way that most people in capitalist societies buy into the belief that success comes from hard work and dedication and that anyone can live a good life if they do these things—despite the reality that a job which pays a living wage is increasingly hard to come by. Both theorists were right about the role that culture plays in society, but neither was exclusively right. Culture can be a force for oppression and domination, but it can also be a force for creativity, resistance, and liberation. It is also a deeply important aspect of human social life and social organization. Without it, we would not have relationships or society. Culture is a dynamic and integral aspect of society that encompasses both non-material aspects like values and beliefs, and material aspects such as objects and technology, all of which shape and are being shaped by society.Sociologists value culture for its role in maintaining social order and collective identity, as well as its influence on everyday actions and societal norms.Influential sociologists like Émile Durkheim and Karl Marx highlighted culture's dual role in fostering social cohesion and perpetuating power dynamics. Meanings Synonyms Sentences Of or pertaining to culture; specif., of the training and refinement of the intellect, interests, taste, skills, and arts. Obtained by breeding or cultivation. Of or having to do with a particular culture. Culture is a group of practices, beliefs, values and ideas that form the identity of an individual or community. It is reflected in many aspects of life including language, religion, cuisine, social habits and music among others. It also encompasses a person’s personal and family values. The concept of culture is based on various philosophical perspectives, most notably on the notion that human symbolic culture stems from evolved biological dispositions, or on cultural materialism, whereby human cultural expressions are rooted in societal materializations and productions (Hewison 210). Some scholars also argue that human socialization is essential for the development of culture, as well as the development of humans as individuals and society as a whole. People’s views about themselves and their relationships with others are largely formed by their culture, which is an essential aspect of their identities and the way they see the world around them. Some of the benefits of a diverse culture are that it inspires creativity, fosters growth and progress within a community, and allows individuals to find new ways of expressing themselves. Some of the disadvantages of a culture are that it can be restrictive and inflexible, which can make it difficult for people to express their views or opinions. It can also lead to a sense of isolation when people are not exposed to different cultures and viewpoints. This is why it’s important to be open to different cultures, and to learn about the various traditions of other communities. In addition, some cultures can be threatened by outside forces such as colonization and war. This is called acculturation, and it occurs when members of a certain culture adopt traits or behaviors of another, sometimes to the detriment of their own. The process can happen on both an individual and a national level, and it is often associated with the destruction of native culture. The main role of culture is to unite the community and provide them with a shared sense of belonging. Through this, it encourages moral behaviour and helps to promote a sense of responsibility. For example, most cultures avoid the vices of stealing, lying and being lazy. This can also help to build self-esteem and confidence, especially in children. It is the job of every person in a society to support their local culture and ensure that it is protected. This can be done by promoting cultural activities and encouraging young people to be proud of their heritage. In this way, we can preserve the rich history and tradition of our community and ensure that it will continue to flourish for generations to come. To do this, we need to know more about the importance of our culture. By doing so, we can better understand the reasons why it is so vitally important. We can then promote it and help to build a stronger, more vibrant community. Culture is a group of practices, beliefs, values and ideas that form the identity of an individual or community. It is reflected in many aspects of life including language, religion, cuisine, social habits and music among others. 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View synonyms for culturalof or relating to artistic or social pursuits or events considered to be valuable or enlightenedof or relating to a culture or civilization(of certain varieties of plant) obtained by specialized breeding“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012culturally adverbanticultural adjectiveanticulturally adverbde-cultural adjectivenonculturally adverbpreculturally adverbpseudocultural adjectivepseudoculturally adverbtranscultural adjectivetransculturally adverb'culturally adverbOrigin of cultural1First recorded in 1865–70; culture + -al 1Examples have not been reviewed.“The Saw franchise has defined a generation of horror, and its cultural impact continues to grow,” he said.Inquest's director, Deborah Coles, said: "It should not be down to families to have to fight for cultural and policy change.""This isn't about just an office space, but a cultural hub which welcomes creatives in."And yet, it became a cultural utility item: passed across drive-thru windows, cradled in college libraries, eaten one-handed while steering through suburban traffic.But Johnson has cleverly weaponized her nepo baby status, using it to stay in the cultural conversation long enough to prove herself with each new film — or at least the ones she actually cares about.artistic developmental www.thesaurus.comcultratecultural anthropologyBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrsstuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Financial, Idioms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia. (kŭl′chər-əl)adj. Of or relating to culture or cultivation.American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. (ˈkʌltʃərəl) adj1. (Art Terms) of or relating to artistic or social pursuits or events considered to be valuable or enlightened2. (Sociology) of or relating to a culture or civilization3. (Horticulture) (of certain varieties of plant) obtained by specialized breedingCollins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (ˈkʌl tʃər əl) adj. 1. of or pertaining to culture. 2. of or pertaining to cultivation. Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved. Adj.1.cultural - of or relating to the arts and manners that a group favors; "cultural events"; "a person of broad cultural interests"2.cultural - denoting or deriving from or distinctive of the ways of living built up by a group of people; "influenced by ethnic and cultural ties"- J.F.Kennedy; "ethnic food"social - living together or enjoying life in communities or organized groups; "a human being is a social animal"; "mature social behavior"3.cultural - of or relating to the shared knowledge and values of a society; "cultural roots"4.cultural - relating to the raising of plants or animals; "a cultural variety"Based on WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.adjective2. artistic, educational, elevating, aesthetic, enriching, broadening, enlightening, developmental, civilizing, edifying, educative This holiday was a rich cultural experience.Collins Thesaurus of the English Language – Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition. 2002 © HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002adjectivePromoting culture:civilizing, edifying, enlightening, humanizing, refining. The American Heritage® Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright © 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. menningarlegur, menningar- [ˈkʌltʃərəl]B. CPD cultural attaché N → agregado/a m/f culturalCollins Spanish Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 8th Edition 2005 © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1971, 1988 © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005Collins English/French Electronic Resource. © HarperCollins Publishers 2005Collins German Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007 [ˈkʌltʃ/ər/əl] adj → culturaleCollins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition © HarperCollins Publishers 1995 (ˈkaltʃə) noun1. a form or type of civilization of a certain race or nation. the Jewish culture. kultuur حَضارَة культура cultura kultura die Kultur kultur; kulturliv; levevis πολιτισμός؛cultura kultuur فرهنگ kulttuuri culturerתרבות ▯▯▯▯▯▯ kultura kultúra kebudayaan (þjóð)menning cultura 文化 kultūra kultūra budaya cultuurkulturkultura دستور، فرهنگ cultură культура kultúra kultura kultura kultur ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ kültür 文化 культура تهذيب، تمدن، ثقافت văn hóa 文化2. improvement of the mind etc by education etc. He was an enthusiastic seeker of culture. geletterdheid ثقافه култивиране cultura kultura die Bildung kultur; dannelse καλλιέργεια, κουλτούραcultura enesearendus فرهیختگی sivistys cultureתרבות ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ kultura műv peradaban menning, menntun cultura 洗練 kultūra kultūra ilmu pengetahuan cultuur dannelse, kultur; utdanningkultura د تعلیم پواسطه د دماغو پرمختګ د cultura cultură культура kultúra kultura kultura bildning ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ eğitim 教養 духовний розвиток; культура ذهنی تربیت sự tu dưỡng 教养3. educated taste in art, literature, music etc. He thinks that anyone wl in culture. kultuur, geletterdheid ثقافه عامّه култура cultura kultura die Bildung kultur; dannelse καλλιέργειαcultura arenenud maitse فضل: ادب و آموختگی sivistys cultureתרבות ▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯ ▯▯▯ kultura műveltség citarasa siðfágun, menntun, menning cultura 教養 kultūra, išsilavinimas kultūra kebudayaan cultuurdannelse, kultivering, kulturbevissthetkultura فضل، ادب، cultu культура kultúra omikanost kultura bildning ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ kültür; zevk ve anlayış 修養 культура ذوق فن văn minh 修养4. 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Tell a friend about us, add a link to this page, or visit the webmaster's page for free fun content. Link to this page: To those old allies whose cultural and spiritual origins we share: we pledge the loyalty of faithful friends.The lyrics were published sometimes in collections by single authors, sometimes in the series of anthologies which succeeded to Tottel's 'Miscellany.' Some of these anthologies were books of songs with the accompanying music; for music, brought with all the other cultural influences from Italy and France, was now enthusiastically cultivated, and the soft melody of many of the best Elizabethan lyrics is that of accomplished composers.