Individual Task 2

Though we have mentioned two constructs from E. T. Hall, six dimensions from Hofstede, and other frameworks, several of these seem to be particularly applicable or have strong explanatory power across a wide ranger of cultural contexts. So we have decided to focus our discussion on these three.

1. **Individualism and Collectivism** may be the most widely-used terms in seeking to make sense in comparing cultures. However, it is often misunderstood and misused in research. The next step is dedicated to helping you correctly understand its meaning and application.
2. **High and Low Power Distance** as a dimension addresses whether power is distributed evenly or unequally among members of a society. Hofstede and other empirical scholars seek to use measures of power distance to describe the functional expressions of hierarchy, status, and inequality that manifest themselves, especially organizational structures across cultures. Note that critical scholars look at this in more theoretical and socially situated ways. They aim to address systemic power inequalities and social injustices that need to be studied, rectified, and call privileged classes to account to better acknowledge, empower, or motivate agency for marginalized populations.
3. **Time orientations** also vary across cultures. In coining the term "chronemics," E. T. Hall proposed differences between Monochronic (M-time) and Polychronic (P-time) orientations. The video highlight how some cultural systems prefer Monochronic (arranging time linearly, one event after another, in analog sequential ways) and others prefer Polychronic processes (doing many things at one time, multi-tasking, in more digital, event centered ways).

   Hall was also interested in examining how each culture emphasizes different slow or fast messages. Studying what people take time for can help make us award of what is more important or meaningful to them. A modern technological culture might seek to use devices to save time, to do more things at the same time more quickly (fast!), and yet still find or take time for slow-time expressions like religious meditation, a massage, or enjoying music or a concert.

   How does your culture view time? Do you tend to be more Poly-chronic trying to do many things at the same time, or more linear and sequential in the way you do things? What fast or slow expressions of messages or time use are common in your culture? However you view or practice these areas, we suggest "its time" to be more cross-culturally sensitive to the variations that exist around us.