

Cultural “Bumps”

Think of a time when you have had a conflict (misunderstanding) with someone from another culture (or micro-culture). Write 2 paragraphs.

Paragraph One: What was the conflict (misunderstanding) you had with someone from another culture? Describe briefly what happened from your own perspective: Describe the event, what cultural beliefs influenced your own actions and how you interpreted the other person’s behaviors based on your beliefs. What did you expect the other person to do? (How) did you resolve the issue?

Paragraph Two: Re-examine the event pretending you are the other person and writing in their voice. Now re-describe the event from his/her perspective. What cultural beliefs were guiding his/her behavior? What did he/she expect you to do? How would he/she want to resolve the issue?

e.g. Paragraph One: My version (Anna’s)

Paragraph Two: Komi’s version