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Intercultural Studies

Culture Context

High and Low Context Cultures

High Context

- Less verbally explicit communication, less written/formal information
- Long term relationships
- Knowledge is situational relational.
- Decisions and activities focus around personal face-to-face relationships, often around a central person who has authority.

Low Context

- More knowledge is codified, public, external, and accessible.
- Separation of time, space, activities, ar d relationships
- Knowledge is more often transferable
- Decisions and activities focus around what needs to be done, division of responsibilities.

High Context Low Context Africa. Great Britain, Germany, Middle East, France, Scandinavia, Asia, Belgium, North America, Latin America, Holland Australia Southern Europe Sweden

High and Low Context Cultures

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High context culture		Low context culture	
	Strong sense of insiders and outsiders		Specific information exists
	Informal	•	Focus on results
	Team and family activities preferred		Transparency expected
	A lot of confidential information		Rules and regulations are easily
	Public criticism insulting	acce	essible
	Close personal relationships	•	Written contracts
	General information	•	"Have a go at it" philosophy
	Elders/authoritative figures in control	•	Individual responsibility
	Concerned about 'losing'		Expertise valued
	Who you know is important	•	Emphasis on words and text
	Focus on task	•	What you know is important
			Individual freedom valued
•	Strong sense of family		

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Polite people admired

Privacy (even when dealing with one's own family) highly valued

Reserved

Gender roles less fixed

Strong sense of honor

Strong sense of fairness

Process more important than product

Values logic over feeling

Public admission of wrongdoing expected.

Clear division of responsibilities at work

Strong sense of respect

Better response to visual information

No direct eye contact

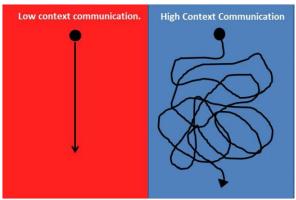
Verbal agreements

Very rare marriage with outsiders



High and Low Context Culture **Examples**

Very rare marriage with outsiders: I do not prefer marriage from other nationality because I think it is difficult to stay away from parents and relatives while, the culture and traditions will be different and the rights might be lost. Thus, will have more barriers to have real vacation while the airplane tickets are expensive.



Polite people admired: polite

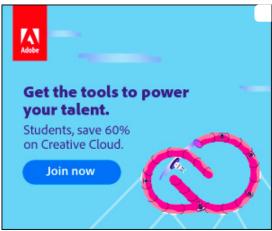
people respect themselves before respect others. Moreover, I admired polite people because They make us feel comfortable, feel respected and valuable. I would love to be more like

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tions, thus increases the work productivity. I prefer work in team work because it is one of the main benefits team environment is the ability to share ideas between the group

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