

1:5 THE CONCEPT OF CULTURE

A. DEFINITIONS OF CULTURE

- ***“All learned behavior which is socially acquired”***
-Eugene Nida
- ***“A people’s design for living”*** -Clyde Kluckhorn
- ***“The integrated system of ideas, learned behavior patterns, and products characteristic of a society”***
(Based on P. Hiebert)

1. IDEAS: models of culture in the minds of people in a given society.

2. LEARNED BEHAVIOR PATTERNS: integration of cultural traits characteristic of the members of a society. (Trait: Smallest unit of culture)

3. PRODUCTS: material artifacts or “tools” produced by a society

4. INTEGRATED SYSTEMS: the complex inter-relationship of various parts of a culture (Cultural Configuration)

5. SOCIETY: group of people who interact Primarily with each other and share certain common characteristics.

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE

- 1. Multi-individual**
- 2. Storehouse of “pooled” learning**
- 3. Regulator**
- 4. Fulfills needs/creates needs**
- 5. Determines values**
- 6. Preserves past**
- 7. Like a map:**
 - Abstraction of reality**
 - Helps get around in culture**
 - Delineates subcultures**
- 8. Complex**
- 9. Explicit and implicit**
- 10. Integrated system**
- 11. Changing**

C. VISUALIZING CULTURE AS LAYERS

- 1. Behavior**
- 2. Values**
- 3. Beliefs**
- 4. Worldview**