

Ch. 4 Vocab

Popular Culture

Origin: recent, known/copyrighted

Diffusion: mostly expansion (technology)

Nature of community: large/heterogeneous

Folk Culture

Origin: ancient/unkown

Diffusion: mostly relocation

Nature of community: small/homogenous/isolated

Acculturation

Def: A process of adaptation of new traits or customs (doesn't have to lead to complete assimilation and isn't always unidirectional)

Ex: Mexican immigrants and native Americans adopt traits from each other (e.g. lang. & food)

Assimilation

Def: a process of adaptation of the traits, customs & values of a host society. The process is unidirectional.

Ex: a Mexican immigrant fully adopts US customs and values of the US

Neolocalism

Def: seeking out the regional culture and reinvigorating it in response to the homogenizing effect of globalization

Ex: Little Sweden, USA

Material & Non Material Culture

Material: constructed objects (art, architecture, fashion)

Non-Material: rituals, aesthetics, values & ideas

Sig: cultural products reflect the nonmaterial beliefs & values

Cultural Appropriation

Def: the process by which other cultures adopt customs & knowledge and use them for their own benefit (negative connotation)

Ex: getting a henna tattoo at Venice Beach

Folk Housing Regions

Def: 3 distinct regions developed along the east Coast by the mid 1850s due to differing migration hearths, climate & available material

Ex: New England, Middle Atlantic & Tidewater South

Cultural Homoginization

Def: the process by which cultures lose their distinct traits for shared traits

Sig: led by greater interaction among cultures (globalization)

Cultural Nationalism

Def: effort to protect local culture from the homogenizing effect of globalization (often anti-westernization)

Ex: protection of Gaelic language in Ireland or keep US movies out of Islamic countries

Multiculturalism

Def: focuses on cultural diversity, celebrating ethnic variety & teaching tolerance

Sig: rejects the “melting pot” theory where immigrants leave behind their original culture

Placelessness

Def: loss of uniqueness of place in the cultural landscape so that one place looks like the other

Ex: architecture (sky scraper), business branding (I-Hop) & idealized landscapes (main street)

Should Also Knows

cultural ecology

Def: the study of human-environment interaction

Sig: how a culture views the environment (to be revered or controlled?); how a culture alters the environment (pop v. folk effects on environment)

Global-local Continuum

Def: what happens at one scale is related to what happens on another scale

Ex: US CO₂ emissions affect global temperatures & global warming affects US shrimp industry

Glocalization

Def: people in a local place alter regional, national and global processes

Ex: The diffusion of Taco Bells throughout the world



Cultural Realm

Def: combination of related cultural regions due to a shared trait(s)

Ex: Combining the following Islamic regions (despite ethnic & linguistic differences):

N. Africa, Arabia, Iran, & S/SE Asia