

Introduction:

This lesson plan will challenge participants to develop an attitude of intercultural openness by initiating and developing relationships with people who are culturally different from them. They will sit down with another person who comes from a different country (and who ideally speaks a different first language) and exchange answers to a list of 25 questions.

Background and Information:

This activity was originally developed by Purdue University's Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE) as a digital badge for the "Purdue University's Passport to Intercultural Learning" (PUPIL) program. CIE took the questions directly from Shelley Provost's "[25 Revealing Questions that Build Better Work Relationships](https://www.inc.com/shelley-prevost/25-revealing-questions-that-build-better-relationships-at-work.html)" on *Inc.*

Objectives:

As a result of this activity, participants will be able to:

1. Express life experiences and intellectual/emotional positions.
2. Develop deeper connections with teammates through sharing answers to questions that evoke these experiences and positions.

Time:

1 hour

Group Size:

Pairs

Materials:

Paper if needed for participants to answer the questions.

Intercultural Development Continuum Stages:

- Denial
- Minimization
- Acceptance

AAC&U Intercultural Knowledge and Competence Goals:**Curiosity:**

- To ask complex questions about other cultures.
- To seek out and articulate answers to these questions that reflect multiple cultural perspectives.

Openness:

- To initiate and develop interactions with culturally different others.
- To suspend judgment in valuing interactions with culturally different others.

Other Skills:

Friendship, Teamwork

Activity instructions:

Ask participants to pair up with someone from a different cultural group. Students should ask each other the questions listed at the below websites and record (written or video) their answers. Students will need to navigate to the websites themselves and answer the questions accordingly.

- <https://www.inc.com/shelley-prevost/25-revealing-questions-that-build-better-relationships-at-work.html>
- Handout form: <https://www.purdue.edu/innovativelearning/download/attitude-of-intercultural-openness-assignment/?wpdmdl=1268&refresh=65de6db6574f71709075894/>