

## **Introduction:**

For this activity, you will read a summary of Philipsen's article (citation below) and discuss the case studies presented in the summary. You will also discuss your own experiences in "finding your feet" in unfamiliar cultural contexts. Finally, you will explore ways in which you can apply the principles of "finding your feet" and offer your own suggestions about how to gain a better understanding of communication in specific contexts.

## **Activity Instructions:**

1. Take 15 minutes to read the summary of the article.
2. In a small group discussion, talk about the stories of Reiko and Rachel in the summary.  
Discuss:
  - Which case study resonated with you more? Explain.
  - What aspects of both case studies could you relate to? Why?
  - What aspects of either case study did you find it difficult to relate to? Why?
3. Now discuss a time when you had to "find your feet" in a specific context, addressing the following questions:
  - What challenges did you face?
  - Did you feel misunderstood, or did you misunderstand others?
  - Did you find yourself using stereotypes to interpret what happened?
  - How can using observation lead to a more nuanced interpretation?
4. Whole group discussion:
  - What were your biggest take-aways from this reading?
  - When might you find Philipsen's advice useful?
  - What advice of your own do you have to add?