

Imagine culture as an iceberg. What part of an iceberg is usually visible? Only the tip. The majority of an iceberg is actually underwater, invisible from the surface, just as culture is often invisible. Our **behaviors** are like the tip of the iceberg: they are the visible elements of our cultural **values**. These **values** are hidden but are made visible through our **actions** and **attitudes**.

Part A:



The iceberg analogy was first credited to Edward T. Hall in Beyond Culture (1976)

1. What elements make up culture? In pairs, write a list of different cultural aspects. Are they explicit or implicit culture? *Examples: Music is explicit culture. Time importance is implicit culture.*

- 2. Think about your values, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. How might your values affect your behavior? Give at least one specific example. *Example: I value other people's time, so I always arrive on time.*
- **3.** Tell your partner about a situation where your values were different from someone else's. What happened? How did you feel? Were you able to resolve the situation?

Part B:

Since much of our culture is invisible or **implicit**, it can be difficult to notice our own culture. Sometimes we only notice our own cultural values when we are confronted with different cultural values. Let's explore some of your own values.

- 1. Access this website: <u>http://www.bothell.washington.edu/getattachment/globalinitiatives/resources/interc</u> <u>ultural-competency-tool-kit-(1)/mapping-your-cultural-orientation.pdf</u>
- **2.** Follow the directions given. Remember there are no right or wrong answers. Do not complete the reflection section.
- **3.** After that, compare your answers in groups of 3 or 4. Discuss your reasons for the answers you chose. **Be respectful of others and pay attention to your language: there are no 'right' or 'wrong' or 'stupid' answers.**
- **4.** After your discussion, answer the following questions in writing:
 - **a.** Did you and your classmates have similar responses? Give one example of the response that was mostly the same for all members of your group.
 - **b.** Did you and your classmates have different responses? Give one example of the response that was mostly different for all members of your group.
 - **c.** Which traits or values are the hardest for you to understand and to deal with in other people? Why?
 - **d.** After discussing the responses with others, how do you feel your values and beliefs shape your life?