

## CULTURAL EXCHANGE

### Performance Standard 18C.H

Write about two examples of cultural exchange accordingly:

- *Knowledge*: Identify two examples of cultural exchange, one that took place before 1900, the other after 1900.
- *Reasoning*: Analyze the diffusion of goods or ideas in each cultural exchange and evaluate how it changed each culture.
- *Communication*: Write a 250-word essay that is well-focused, well-organized, and well-detailed; express all ideas in a way that provide evidence of knowledge and reasoning processes.

### Procedures

1. *In order to understand how social systems form and develop over time (18C)*, students should experience sufficient learning opportunities to develop the following skills:
  - Define cultural exchange and provide examples of cultural exchange between two groups.
  - Identify cultural traits (i.e., individual tool, act, or belief that is related to a particular situation or need) and cultural diffusion (i.e., spread of cultural traits from one society to another).
2. Have students review and discuss the assessment task and how the rubric will be used to evaluate their work.
3. Have students research the information needed to write an expository essay about two examples of cultural exchange. For example, when Spanish explorers brought horses to North America, it had an impact on Native Americans, i.e., they could travel and hunt faster and farther; changed social roles.
4. Ask students to write a well-organized, 250-word essay with supporting detail about the researched examples, including:
  - What was exchanged?
  - How it changed the culture it impacted?
  - Show understanding of cultural traits and process of cultural diffusion.
  - Which cultural groups were involved?
  - Time frame of the exchange.
5. Evaluate each student's work using the Social Science Rubric as follows and add the scores to determine the performance level:
  - *Knowledge*: The description of the cultural traits and cultural diffusion of two examples of cultural exchange was complete and accurate.
  - *Reasoning*: The analysis of the diffusion in each cultural exchange and evaluation of how it changed the culture were thorough and correct.
  - *Communication*: The essay had 250 words and was well-focused, well-organized, and well-detailed; knowledge and reasoning were accurately and effectively communicated in the essay.

### Examples of Student Work follow

### Time Requirements

- Three class periods: one for brainstorming, one for research, one for essay writing

### Resources

- Sources of information (primary and secondary) that include information about topics that served as the impetus for cultural diffusion
- Social Science Rubric

# Cultural Diffusion

The definition of Cultural Diffusion is when two cultures exchange different items and adapt to what they gave them. An example is when the England colonists got potatoes and had many people killed because they had potato famine.

My example of Cultural Diffusion is the Molly Maguires. This group of people were a group of Irish rebels who came to the U.S. in 1865-1875. These people were very excellent miners. Even though they were good miners their working conditions were horrible. The Molly Maguires were dissatisfied with these conditions. So the Maguires turned to violence. They committed crimes like arson and murder. In 1875 Molly Maguires they succeeded in forming a miners union. called a strike. These Irish rebels brought the strike to the U.S. which is a work stoppage

due to poor working conditions. Two years after they formed this workers' strike the Reading Railroad infiltrated the Molly Maguires and had twenty of their members executed. Now the Mollies are known as terrorists.

The strike has played a significant role in the economic, political, and social life. Usually strikes are based on the laborers wages, unlike the Mollies who didn't like their working conditions. Strikes have played a major role with the rise and fall of workers' union. Also new unions have formed from strikes. Strikes have caused citywide unions. A citywide union is when all of the city putting much shut down.

So overall the Molly Maguires played a major role on the economy. Personally I think the Mollies gave a negative item to the U.S.

My reason is that these Unions  
have caused kids to be deprived  
from their education. I think  
people should worry more about their  
job and not worry about their working  
conditions, like the Nollies did. Strikes  
are a negative point on the economy.

## St. Patrick's Day

"Exceeds"

**During the late 1800's and the early 1900's, a flood of Irish immigrants flocked to our welcoming shores. Many came simply seeking a better life, and some had no other choice. Along with their delicious foods and innovative healthcare skills, they also brought with them the idea of St. Patrick's Day. Americans have come to recognize the holiday as one of their own.**

**In the fifth century, Ireland was Christianized by Saint Patrick. March 17 was always celebrated with churchgoing and much prayer. When the immigrants began arriving to America in large numbers, we adopted and modified their St. Patrick's Day tradition.**

**Today, we celebrate St. Patrick's Day with extravagant parades and days away from work and possibly school. We symbolize the holiday with the color green and also with four-leafed shamrocks. Many cities have their own St. Patrick's Day celebrations as well. For example, every year in Chicago there is a great parade and the Chicago River is dyed green. There are also many traditions that are not as big such as family get-togethers, picnics, and some marathons.**

**Overall, Irish immigrants have brought us a holiday that many Americans enjoy. St. Patrick's Day, which is celebrated on March 17th, has changed our culture and allowed us to have a day to spend with family and friends. As you can see, the religious festival has transformed into a day of merrymaking for all who choose to celebrate it. Who knows, maybe someone will find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow on St. Patrick's Day... if they have the luck of the Irish!**