

Discussion Questions

1. In today's newspaper, find an article about an event or situation in which cultural differences between persons born and educated in different countries may have played a role (there are always several). Which *one* of the six Hofstede et al. (2010) dimensions is most useful for understanding what was said and done?¹
2. Think of the last time you personally experienced a culture shock. Culture shock occurs when somebody becomes painfully aware that a person or persons born and educated in another country think(s), feel(s) and/or act(s) differently from what was expected. What happened and which *one* of the six Hofstede et al. (2010) dimensions explains best the reason for the shock?
3. Next time you attend an international meeting, compare the theories and ways of presentation of participants born and educated in different countries. Which *one* of the six Hofstede et al. (2010) dimensions was most useful for understanding the differences in what was said and how?
4. Draw the culture profile of the country in which you grew up on the six Hofstede et al. (2010) dimensions. Then imagine two persons from two different countries and imagine how each of them will describe your culture to a compatriot.

¹ Culture scores of countries can be found in Hofstede, Hofstede and Minkov (2010) and on our home website www.geerthofstede.eu under "research and VSM" and "dimension data matrix". Scores are also published on other websites and apps, but the author is not responsible for the information presented there.