

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (ICC)

ICC Task 1: Cultural Awareness

"I noticed that the teacher gave orders rather than asking questions and I wondered if it is a cultural norm because I found it rather authoritative."

(observation of a student teacher of English after classroom observation abroad)

Part A

Individual reflection

Think back to either a class you observed or a class you taught. Identify something that happened during one of these classes that was culturally unexpected or inappropriate for you. Then answer the following questions:

1. What happened?
2. Why was it culturally unexpected or inappropriate for you?
3. How did you or the teacher you observed deal with the behaviour or the situation?
4. How did you feel when it happened? Why?
5. Is there anything else that could have been done in the situation? If so, what difference would it have made?
6. What did you learn about yourself from the experience?
7. Will you change [Have you changed] your teaching practice because of this experience? If so, how?

You can use the following questions to conduct self-evaluation of your responses in addition to the Candidate self-assessment in the TEF Framework:

Is there any evidence of reasoning in my responses?

Am I able to consider alternatives and the implications these might have on future classroom interaction?

Have I made any connection between what I experienced and classroom practice in general?

Have I supported any of my explanation with evidence from scholarship?

Part B

Group reflection

1. In your transnational groups discuss the responses you each gave in Part A. Compare and contrast your views.
2. What will you individually take away from the discussion in your group?

