

ICC ACTIVITIES

ICC Task 4: Interpreting behaviour

We encounter many different behaviours in classrooms and occasionally some of them can be surprising. This is especially true if we teach in a new school, perhaps far away from the school culture we are used to.

Individual reflection:

Read the student behaviours below. What would be your first thought or first reaction if you were the teacher?

1. That student passes me every week on the corridor and never says hello.
 2. That student doesn't take his hat off inside.
 3. That student never smiles when we meet.
 4. That student doesn't contribute to discussions in class.
 5. Those two students always talk to each other during my classes.
 6. That student touches my arm every now and then.
 7. That student often frowns when she listens to me.
 8. That student complains all the time.
 9. That student always brings me little gifts.
 10. Those two students keep interrupting me and each other.
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Individual reflection:

Read the sentences again and think of at least 3 different reasons why the students might be behaving this way.



Pair or group work:

Pair up with someone or form small groups and compare your answers.

As a group, how many different reasons could you think of for each of the student behaviours described above?

Are some of the underlying reasons cultural? Could some of them be personal?

What does this activity teach us about bias and judgmental thinking?

What did you learn about yourself in this activity?

