

TEFE Post-ITP Internship Reflection (debrief)

Since reflection is a powerful tool for learning, the TEFE A+ team encourages returning interns to choose 1 or 2 questions from each section below and really think through what you've experienced during your internship and what you've learned because of those experiences.

This can be done in person with your home institution's TEFE A+ coordinator or individually [online](#).

ICC

- How did you prepare for your international internship before leaving your home country? In what way was your preparation different from preparing for your teaching practicum in your home country?
- How did communication styles differ between your home country and the host country—for example, in terms of formality, nonverbal cues, hierarchy, and how people take turns in conversation? What specific event or incident did you experience which brought those differences to mind?
- What, if any, communication challenges or moments of misunderstanding did you experience due to cultural differences during your internship (at school or outside)? How did you handle or resolve them? What specific event or incident occurred?
- How often did you have the opportunity to incorporate discussions about cultural similarities and differences of your home culture into your lessons? How did your pupils/students respond?
- In what ways did the internship change your understanding and perception of intercultural communication? What specific event(s) or incident(s) influenced that change?

PTCI

- What were the most noticeable differences in teaching styles or school settings between your home country and the host country? Please give specific examples of events, situations, or incidents.
- Please describe an unexpected situation you experienced at the school that might have been influenced by cultural norms. How did you react? If it resulted in conflict how was it resolved?
- How easy/difficult did you find it to adjust to the expectations of the host school? Why? Please give specific examples of expectations that were easy/difficult to adjust to.
- If you were to change one thing about your teaching approach based on this experience, what would it be? Please explain why based on any situations during your internship which led to this change.

GCC

- To what extent do you think you influenced your pupils' values, attitudes, or beliefs regarding different cultures during your internship? Please explain. Please describe specific examples of what happened that led to the influence you had.
- In what way did your internship experience challenge or change any of your own personal values, attitudes, or beliefs about different cultures? Why do you think that is? Please also describe the event(s) or situation(s) which led to this change/challenge.
- To what extent did this experience reinforce or challenge your understanding of what it means to be a teacher in an intercultural setting? Please explain.

Final Thoughts

- Would you recommend an international teaching practice to other student teachers? Why or why not?
- If you could give one piece of advice to future student teachers going abroad to do an internship, what would it be?