

Advanced Two - Unit One - Summary

This reading will talk about a cultural shock, which has several stages of adapting for a person who decides to immigrate to a new country with a new culture and lifestyle. Even children are immune from this, and it would take a long or short time according to the residence time.

The first stage of this adaptation starts even before your departure. In this stage, you dream and imagine the things and challenges you will face in the new country among new people.

The 2nd stage starts simultaneously with the entrance of the person to the new country. At this stage, the preference is to be an observer rather than doing something in action since the immigrant is on the highest amount of emotion and tends to discover the new world around him/her.

The third stage is called involvement since the immigrant moves into action and prefers to face real challenges rather than being passive. The more she/he involves, the more difficulties will see. This stage is full of varieties, and the traveler will face lots of different situations, and any mistake would be a lesson for him/her to get more into that society and culture.

By involving more and more in the new society, all of the dreams in the last stages become true. All the things that were supposed to be challenging become comfortable, and all the impossibilities turn into possibilities. In this stage (4th stage), the traveler starts to behave like an inhabitant, which is why this stage is named cultural shock. In this stage, all of the strange stuff, such as currency and language, become familiar. Despite high adaptation at this stage, immigrants feel more impatient, which makes them lose their interest and curiosity, and finally, they become isolated. Losing some old culture and gaining some new ones is endangering their identity and make them frightened. The duration of this stage depends on the personality and could last long or short. After finishing, the travelers start to resocialize. They regain their interest, which makes them a real part of the country.

The last stage occurs when the travelers return to their initial and native land. When they come back, they realize that they have changed, and they are not the previous person anymore. Everybody, including their family and friends, has become inflexible, and all of these cause feeling some strangeness in their homeland!

Finally, the personality and characteristics' role, which could not be ignored, is one of the significant factors that determine the degree of adaptability. Some people could easily pass the stages, and others really suffer to pass them. But the final deduction is that nobody remained the same person after immigration!

