



**Unit:**  
**Culture Studies**

**Assignment title:**  
**Culture Studies**

**Sample**

**Important notes**

- Please refer to the *Assignment Presentation Requirements* for advice on how to set out your assignment. These can be found on the NCC Education website. Click on 'Policies & Advice' on the main menu and then click on 'Student Support'.
- You must read the NCC Education documents *What is Academic Misconduct? Guidance for Candidates* and *Avoiding Plagiarism and Collusion: Guidance for Candidates* and ensure that you acknowledge all the sources that you use in your work. These documents are available on the NCC Education website. Click on 'Policies & Advice' on the main menu and then click on 'Student Support'.
- You **must** complete the *Statement and Confirmation of Own Work*. The form is available on the NCC Education website. Click on 'Policies & Advice' on the main menu and then click on 'Student Support'.
- Please make a note of the recommended word count. You could lose marks if you write 10% more or less than this.
- You must submit a paper copy and digital copy (on disk or similarly acceptable medium). Media containing viruses, or media that cannot be run directly, will result in a fail grade being awarded for this assessment.
- All electronic media will be checked for plagiarism.

## Introduction

This assignment is worth 100% of your overall grade for this unit.

### Task 1 – 50 Marks

Choose TWO (2) **different** countries. Compare and contrast them in relation to **any** TWO (2) of the following:

- Socialising and meeting people
- Clothing and fashion
- Employment and industry

### Task 2 – 50 Marks

You have recently moved to a new country to study. Your friend is coming to visit you. This is the first time they have travelled to this country and they would like some information on what to expect when they arrive. Prepare a short report advising them of the main differences between their home and the country they are travelling to. Include:

- Food and drink

And TWO (2) of the following:

- Geography and population
- Transport
- Student life

## Notes

Think back to what you have learnt in class on this topic and what you learnt about writing a comparative essay. Identify what you want to write about and conduct research to support your writing.

Write a detailed plan and check that what you will write about directly relates to the essay topic. Keep checking and rechecking your work as you write, proofreading your writing for spelling and grammar errors. Read the points below carefully before you start planning your essay and check them regularly as you write.

Each of the points below explains how your essay can gain more marks.

- **Choose 2 to 4 points or elements to compare in your essay.** For example, if you were comparing cats and dogs, you might choose to compare size, legs, tails and ears. You should clearly state which elements you are going to compare in the introduction and only discuss these elements.

- **Compare each point or element in detail.** Use your essay to explain **how** each element is similar (or different). Make sure you write the same amount for each subject. Clearly summarise this information and draw conclusions from any discussions/comparisons.
- **Use research to support your comparisons.** For each comparison or statement you make use an example or other research to support what you say. Your essay should clearly show where your ideas and arguments come from. If you want to write 'all dogs have four legs' you need to **prove** this by referring to a reliable source or including a quote.
- **Remember to reference your work carefully.** Plagiarism will result in an automatic mark of zero. Every time you use someone else's idea, you will need to add a reference to show this. This reference should include the author's name, date of publication and the exact page number where the information can be found. For Internet references, you should include the author's name and publication date. Ask your tutor if you are unsure how this works.
- **Structure your essay clearly.** Include an introduction, main body and a conclusion. Organise the content of your essay so that each paragraph has a main point and only discusses that point. Organisation should be clear and each paragraph should have a clear purpose.
- **Make sure your essay is easy to follow.** Sentences and paragraphs should flow on to the next. Order your paragraphs in a logical way that helps the reader understand what you are saying.
- **Make sure your essay is well presented.** Essays should look professional and use an appropriate font, size and justification.
- **Include a bibliography.** You will need to list all the books you read and websites you visited to prepare for this essay in the bibliography. This is a list of books or other sources used when researching a piece of work. It goes on a new page at the end of the essay. It should be in alphabetical order, according to the authors' surnames.

When adding books to the bibliography, you begin with the author's name, followed by the date of publication, the title (*italics*), publisher and place of publication. Look carefully at the punctuation in the example below.

Collie, J. and Martin, A. (2000). *What's it Like? Life and Culture in Britain Today*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

**For websites you should give the exact web address of the page you found useful and the date you accessed it. For example:**

**NOT** [www.abc.co.uk](http://www.abc.co.uk)

**BUT** <http://www.abc.co.uk/go/homepage/news/world/asia/3612844.stm>

**Wherever possible, you must give the author's name.**

If you use an article, you need to give the author's name (surname, initial), the title of the article (*italics*), the web address and the date you accessed the information.  
For example: Brown, S. (2000). *The World Today*. [Available Online]  
<http://www.abc.co.uk/art/01/345675.stm> [Accessed 10/10/08]

**You should include at least SIX (6) sources and write all information in the correct format.**

## Guidance

Consult with your tutor if you are uncertain about any aspect of the assignment.

## Submission requirements

- A single word-processed document containing your essay for Task 1 and your essay for Task 2.
- Your two essays have a word count of **600 words each**.
- The *Statement and Confirmation of Own Work* must also be completed and attached to your work (see front cover).
- The assignment needs to be signed and dated by your tutor.
- **Deadline:** You will submit your coursework according to the deadline set by your teacher.

## Candidate checklist

Please use the following checklist to ensure that your work is ready for submission.

Have you read the NCC Education documents *What is Academic Misconduct? Guidance for Candidates* and *Avoiding Plagiarism and Collusion: Guidance for Candidates* and ensured that you have acknowledged all the sources that you have used in your work?

Have you completed the *Statement and Confirmation of Own Work* form and attached it to your assignment? **You must do this.**

Have you ensured that your work has not gone over or under the recommended word count by more than 10%?

Have you ensured that your work does not contain viruses and can be run directly?