

CULTURE CHANGE EXERCISE

Anthropology 101

Due: Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Purpose: To give students experience interviewing an informant about culture change

What to Do: Talk to someone over the age of 65 for at least one hour about what life was like when they were young and how our culture has changed since then. You **MUST** get your informant's permission to use what they say for this exercise. Your discussion with your informant can focus on one topic or multiple topics. Which option you choose should depend on your interests, what your informant would like to talk about and how much information you are able to obtain on one topic. Remember to be polite, attentive, and appreciative in all of your interactions with your informant.

Report Outline: At the top of your report, indicate the following information about your informant: Name (use pseudonym, if your informant prefers), Age, Gender, Birthplace, Current residence, and Ethnicity.

Then, make a table that summarizes what you learned about culture change during your interview. If your interview focused on just one topic, then your table should have two columns, labeled "Then" and "Now". In the "Then" column, you should make a bullet-point list of the observations that your informant made about that topic in the past, indicating the approximate time frame (e.g., 1930's). In the "Now" column, you should make a bullet-point list of the observations that your informant made about how that topic today and how it has changed. As much as possible, put corresponding bullet points for then and now on the **same line** on your table.

If your interview focused on more than one topic, then your table should have three columns, labeled "Topic", "Then", and "Now". The number of rows should correspond to the number of topics that were discussed. In the first column for each row, you should indicate the topic. In the second and third columns, you should fill in the information for each row as indicated above.

Again, as much as possible, put corresponding bullet points for then and now on the **same line** on your table.

This assignment is worth 15 points. It should be **type**-written with regular sized margins and font size. If your table takes more than one page, **staple** them together.