

## Cultural Diversities

### Class Discussion

With a partner, ideally someone from the same country as you, prepare information for a class discussion on the topic of cultural differences or diversities.

In your native country does the culture dictate any of the issues outlined below?

At what age do people.....?

- start school \_\_\_\_\_
- leave school \_\_\_\_\_
- work \_\_\_\_\_
- date/get married \_\_\_\_\_
- have children \_\_\_\_\_
- retire \_\_\_\_\_

What aspect(s) of the culture of the country where you were reared do you continue to apply in your life here in Ireland?

language  
festivals and celebrations  
clothes  
food  
symbols/emblems  
music/dance  
books/ literature  
leisure activities

Does the government in every country provide these services for the people?

health  
education  
social welfare      e.g. unemployment, pensions, children's allowance

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Customs and traditions are broadly similar all over the world.  
Agree/Disagree?
- It is very difficult to get used to Irish culture and traditions.  
Agree/Disagree?
- Women should not work when their children are young  
Agree/Disagree?
- The Irish state is very generous in its provision of health care, social welfare, education.  
Agree/Disagree?

### **Writing Task**

Consider the differences between Irish culture and traditions and your own with regard to the following

- education/training
- music/dance
- art and literature
- films and television
- rearing children
- work ethic
- leisure activities
- religion
- marriage
- housing/accommodation

Select the two aspects where you have observed the greatest differences and write an account outlining the differences you have noted.

