## Jervis, Ita, CULTURE SHOCK: AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF FIVE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, Education, Catherine R. Barber.

This narrative case study examines the manifestation of culture shock in the lives of five international students who are studying in a local college campus. Its primary purpose is to relate their experiences and to examine the role that a wide range of variables plays in both experiencing and responding to the difficulties it produces. Specifically, this study examines the relationship between culture shock and such variables as age, gender, language skills, socioeconomic background, individual support systems, ethnicity, and nationality. Five participants shared their experiences regarding culture shock through individual interviews. The interviews were transcribed and coded according to common themes, such as language competency, racial/ethnic discrimination, basic needs, and academic awareness. The interviews established that culture shock is real. The major theme that emerged was that language competency is the key to the ability to deal with culture shock and to adapt to life in the United States.