



Cultural Competence Situation Cards

For use with Activity 5 – Problem Swap

International students often pay more per credit hour than domestic students. Can you justify why? What are the increased costs for having international students on campus?	Summarize why low-income families may not use financial institutions in ways that would benefit them. What solutions can you suggest?
Your work team has been teasing the female safety officer in a way that seems sexually suggestive. What should you do?	A team member leaves for religious services and takes a long lunch hour every Friday. The team is complaining about it behind his back. What should you do?
While working in an assisted living center, you are told that only women are to care for the patient in room 214 due to the preferences of her family and husband, but you (as a male) are the only one available and she needs to use the bathroom. What are you going to do?	As a new earth science teacher, you are questioned by a parent about teaching evolution vs creationism. How do you handle this very delicate situation?
You are paired with a coworker whose native language is not English. Though you can usually understand her, she often gets very quiet and talks much more quickly when under stress. This makes her much more difficult to understand. The pair of you are tasked with creating an estimate for a project and then presenting it to a new client your new boss is trying to land. How can you make working together productive?	A colleague has had a vacation approved for four weeks to travel back to his country of origin because his Mom needs surgery and he must help out. He is an important member of the team and will be missing key deadlines during his travel. The office hasn't made any accommodations for his absence, so the team needs to cover his work. What course of action can you initiate?
During an office potluck lunch, one of your colleagues smiles and shows you that they have a Coors Light in their koozie instead of a diet coke. The office has a strict "No Alcohol" policy. They insist that they always have beer in the fridge in their office because they bring them to drink on the train on the way home. Besides, they insist, the boss has even had one with them in their office at the end of the day. How do you handle this?	Your team is on a tight deadline. Everyone is working late except a single mom. She needs to pick up her kids from daycare by 5:30 and then feed, bathe, and put them to bed. She tries to connect with the group while the kids eat or after they are asleep, but by then she is behind in her work and the team needs to stop to catch her up. Everyone is volunteering to cover some of her work, but she insists she can keep up. What options do you have as a team?
Just before an office potluck lunch, a colleague tells you that they put pork sausage in their dish to pass. They didn't tell anyone because it will be funny when he tells the vegetarian "Indian guys" after watching them eat it. What do you say and do?	Robin has had gender reassignment surgery. You collaborate with Robin on many projects, always meeting your deadlines. One of your co-workers starts saying she is off-track most of the time, causing disruption for the team and requests that her desk be moved to a remote location. What do you do?