

SAMPLE 2: Lecture reflection [introduction to assimilation theories]



Reading reflection

Q1	<p>This chapter focuses on the assimilation of immigrants integrating into host societies and how similar immigrants can become to those within the host societies. Assimilation can differ between different immigrant groups. It is not always a linear group and does not necessarily mean that the longer an immigrant group is here, the more they assimilate to the host groups. There are things that can interfere with assimilation, like discrimination which is known as blocked assimilation. These blocked assimilations can lead to lower levels of assimilation like lower education, blocked opportunities in the labor market, and retention of immigrant country cultures. Factors like these can lead towards downward mobility. Oppositely, upward mobility can occur with parents being able to move with their children and the shift in cultures at a similar rate, causing them to assimilate better.</p>
Q2	<p>(Theoretical models) There are different models within assimilation that suggest that assimilation is not linear and is a rather bumpy navigation. There are different ways to assimilate as well. These assimilations include reactive, selective, and symbolic assimilation. Reactive assimilation means that immigrants react to discrimination and tie in to their immigrant roots as a result due to it. Selective is a result of picking which native traditions to stick to in order to achieve an economic achievement. Symbolic is where a person achieves economic freedom and superficially ties themselves to their previous culture as a result.</p>
YQ	<p>Does achievement while being a minority and tying in to cultural roots always mean that it has to be superficially brought up, or has the person always tied into their roots?</p>
WC (-5)	263

Video reflection

1/3 of the video and time code	<p>Natives and immigrants are compared to an extent, as a result of them living together in a host country. Assimilation would be the term to describe the immigrant groups and the host societies that come to resemble each other. It's a multi-step process where the mobility of immigrants and their descendants gain a sense of similarity between each other. Assimilation does not necessarily have a fixed time rate; some argue that assimilation occurs within three to four generations. This is not always true as they happen at different rates from another depending on a multitude of factors. Assimilation can actually cause a downward mobility which allows for a downward mobility of immigrants and their families. Upward mobility can occur as well with strong ties to cultural roots of hard work by promoting hard work and resilience. Assimilation can have different outcomes due to different rules and goals as to the migration that's occurring.</p> <p>4.50</p>
WC (-5)	155
2/3 of the video	<p>Assimilation paces can differ from one another, some are faster than others. Even Americans racialized Irish people and believed they could not assimilate at the same pace. Since the Irish were white and were more able to assimilate to native Americans due to skin color, assimilation became a much easier process to them than with other groups. Classic assimilation theory believes that assimilation is linear with host country norms becoming more and more relevant into the immigrant groups lifestyles. This was a theory made up in 1921 and did not consider the obstacles that immigrants now face in today's present day. They believe that immigrants would lose their identity which is not true in all cases. The new assimilation theory says otherwise. The new theory proposes that there are different factors in assimilation, but it still remains the trend among immigrant groups. It is the long term over the short term according to this theory.</p> <p>9.40</p>
WC (-5)	155

Rest of the video	<p>The segmented assimilation theory goes into a deeper more detailed explanation of what assimilation is and how it can actually occur. This theory states that assimilation by immigrants assimilate within varying parts of society depending on human capital. Human capital refers to education and working skills by immigrants and how quick they are to adapt to it compared to the first generation. There are three main trajectories stated in the segmented assimilation theory. Firstly, the theory says that middle class values are adapted, and cultural values are gradually diminished. Secondly, assimilation or downward mobility because of poverty, and low education levels. Lastly, there is preservation of ethnic values which is usually attained by communal raising of children along with assimilation occurring at the same pace between parents and children all while maintaining cultural value of the immigrant country. It is more of a symbolic situation that shows that immigrant countries can preserve their cultural values and isolate themselves from the other groups that do not retain their values as well.</p>
WC (-5)	170
Total WC (-5):	743