

**CE104 Civil Engineering Projects**  
**Fall 2008**  
**November 12, 2008**

Discussion Questions for in-class exercise:

1. What are the names of the people in your group?
2. Where are your group members from? Where were they born?
3. What are some cultural differences between you and your group members?
4. Which members from your group are from cold climate and which are from hot climate cultures (see Lanier handout for description).
5. How would the members from your group describe their “home” culture:
  - a. Relationship oriented or Task oriented?
  - b. Direct communication or Indirect communication?
  - c. Individual identity or Group identity?
  - d. High context (formal traditions and dress) or Low context (informal)

(some of these descriptors will make more sense from the reading assignment from the book, Foreign to Familiar, by Sarah Lanier which will be posted on WebCT)

6. What cross-cultural experiences have you had? Describe a time when:
  - a. you were misunderstood from a cross cultural standpoint
  - b. you did something inappropriate from a cross cultural standpoint
  - c. you misunderstood a custom or action from another culture
  - d. you misunderstood the religious customs/traditions of another culture
7. If you could live in another culture, where would you like to go?

Keep track of the responses from your group. You will write an essay as a group assignment discussing the above topics. This assignment will be due on December 3. Each group member is expected to contribute about ½ to one page of text to the assignment (about a three page assignment overall covering the above topics).