

CULTURE or culture? Language, content and methodology in a complex world

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I am right; you are dead

What is culture?

1 'Romeo & Juliet'! Roger Bowers: language learning and cultural awareness

- 'Culture' is an inherited wealth of *Memories* (date of the Battle of Hastings, 9/11, Rebecca Loos)
- Completing pairs: Romeo and

2 Culture as shared art?

Shakespeare, Bridget Riley, Elgar & Jacqueline Du Pré, Kylie Minogue

3 Culture as custom & practice?

- a** Greeting: cold English, bowing Japanese, handshaking French, hugging Mexicans, kissing
- b** How to do things: bus tickets, flat rental, getting married

4 Metaphor & idiom: animals

a dog's dinner
a dog's life
going to the dogs
in the doghouse
the cat's whiskers
let the cat out of the bag
I may as well be hanged for a sheep as for a lamb
fishing for compliments
from the horse's mouth
hold your horses
kill two birds with one stone
make a real pig of yourself
smell a rat
the lion's share
wolf in sheep's clothing

D-COMS & Language

1 D-Coms: a way of looking at language & culture beyond the nationalistic

2 But what language?

a txt vs academic

b Do we teach 'minutes' language? Irish-humorous?

c EFL & ELF

- Native speakers vs bilingual speakers
- Third person singular 's', phonemic decay
- Idiom & metaphor in ELF

The metaphor of methodology

1 You're the teacher (Kumaravedevilu)

2 Making methodological bargains (Thorpe)

3 The homework metaphor (Painter)

Making a judgement

Communal?

Useful?

Lingua 'appropriate'?

Translatable?

Unprejudiced?

Reliable?

Engaging?

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The Reith lectures: Climate of fear

www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/reith2004/

And English as a lingua Franca?

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www.guardian.co.uk/GWeekly/Story/0,3939,475315,00.html