

Autobiography of Intercultural Encounters



Module 4

Activity 2: Knowledge – Solution

Which of the two excerpts below match with general knowledge? Which two match with specific knowledge?

AIE excerpt 1

The similarities lay in the special occasion, in the expectations of a social event, in knowing how to behave as host and guest. For me, although a very pleasant experience and unusual to visit someone's house, it was perhaps less exciting since I travel a lot and see many different situations and meet many different people.

Competence: general knowledge

AIE excerpt 2

I had already been to Poland as a two-year old, and then later, during another visit I had learnt Polish (which I had forgotten completely by the time I went there for the second time) helped me to (re)learn the language pretty quickly and to deal with the cultural adjustment quite easily.

Competence: specific knowledge

AIE excerpt 3

I knew she had a different religion. From our biology class I knew that there were certain things she didn't agree with. Things she didn't believe in because her parents taught her to believe certain things. So in some ways we're different because of our religions and in some ways we're the same. It's not only what she believes in but there are big differences between all kinds of religions. It changes some people in different ways.

Competence: general knowledge

AIE excerpt 4

I have worked at a pre-school so I think that helped me to communicate with the children. I used body language, sang with them or took pictures of them that we looked at and laughed.

Competence: specific knowledge