

Icebergs

TARGET AUDIENCES

students and teachers

TARGET LANGUAGES

n/a

TARGET LEVELS

A2+

CONTENTS – *suggested only, to be freely adapted*

Raising awareness of cultural stereotyping, ‘cultural myth’ vs ‘cultural reality’

The choice of cultural context can be left up to individual participants (country, linguistic group, study field, sport, religion, sexual orientation etc.

MATERIALS NEEDED

A3 paper, pens, markers

table

board

LEARNING OUTCOMES – *suggested only, to be freely adapted*

Facilitating discussion on ‘cultural myth’ vs ‘cultural reality’

OVERVIEW

- draw an iceberg (most of it should be hidden under the water) on the board and ask participants to copy it onto their own sheets of paper
- label the above-water section with some well-known perceptions of your own cultural sphere, and the underwater section with less-obvious features
- ask students to label their own icebergs with what they think people will know about their spheres
- then they do the same for a partner’s cultural sphere—what do they think they know (top section), what do they guess (bottom section)
- then they compare, ask questions etc.

RESOURCES & REFERENCES

An activity found in Johnson, G., Rinvoluceri, M., Burghall, M. and Clandfield, L., 2010. *Culture in our Classrooms: Teaching language through cultural content*. Delta Publishing.