



DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS  
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## PROCEEDINGS OF IV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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LINGUISTICS, LANGUAGE TEACHING AND  
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION: THEORY AND  
PRACTICE,

dedicated to the memory of Irina Tsaturova  
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## **PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF TEACHING CULTURAL AWARENESS IN EFL LESSONS**

**Natalia Reznik**

*Luhansk Taras Shevchenko National University, Lugansk People's Republic  
reznik.natalia@gmail.com*

**Elena Tkacheva**

*Luhansk Taras Shevchenko National University, Lugansk People's Republic*

Foreign language learning is comprised of several components, including grammatical competence, communicative competence, language proficiency, as well as a change in attitudes towards one's own or another culture.

Generally, the culture is divided into public and mass culture. The public culture includes the information that forms individual's background knowledge. The mass culture reflects style of life, behavioral stereotypes: typical greetings, body language, concepts of time, hospitality, customs and expressions of friendliness.

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The teacher's task is to combine mass culture and knowledge of public culture at language teaching.

There is an evident change of roles for teacher and students while learning culture rules: the teacher is to become a guide to students, his main task is to make them observe and analyze people's behavior, focusing on patterns of particular cultural aspect. Studying culture is really desirable to begin with behavioural characteristics of a particular nation.

The learner's actual goal in attaining language proficiency may serve as a guide for determining their needs in learning culture.

There is another important rule of culture studying – that is reflection on individual's own cultural background. Learners have to realize not only the importance of obtaining different culture while learning the language, but consider their own culture as equal component of cross- cultural communication.

In order to get a comprehensive picture of the target culture from many angles, students are needed to be presented with different kinds of information. Learners should focus on the sociocultural features of their speaking and behaving, make range of various behavioural patterns, give examples of politeness, find similar expressions suitable for different situations, obtaining both foreign and native culture.