

## Engaging with ethnography

IB DP Social and Cultural Anthropology Engaging with ethnography full package

# 1. Ethnography at a glance

## Ethnography at a glance

IB Social and Cultural Anthropology: engaging with ethnography, examined in paper 2: nine areas of inquiry in three groups (one from each, plus a fourth at HL), read as ethnographic material and compared through the key concepts.

Must-know: the three groups and their areas; material read by viewpoint, methods, concepts and ethics; section A's triangle (concept, area, real-world issue); comparison across areas through shared concepts.

## 2. The nine areas

### The nine areas

Group 1: classifying the world; health, illness and healing; the body. Group 2: belonging; communication, expression and technology; movement, time and space. Group 3: conflict; development; production, exchange and consumption. An area is a field of social life, not a place.

Worked: two areas carried through one school (the morning greeting ritual under belonging; the tuck-shop barter economy under production, exchange and consumption).

### 3. Reading the material

#### Reading the material

Four questions: the viewpoint of the anthropologist (who watched, from where); the research methods (how long, how close); the concepts it illuminates; its ethics (consent, anonymity, harm). The material stays grounded: a described scene, not a generalization about a whole society.

Worked: the greeting ritual read (a participant for one term; daily observation plus twelve interviews; belonging through ritual; names changed, the school's consent).

## 4. Comparing across areas

### Comparing across areas

Section A links a key concept, an area of inquiry and a real-world issue (inequality, violence, poverty, mobility, environment); section B answers from the other areas. Comparison runs through shared concepts: the greeting and the barter both distribute recognition.

Worked: an inequality answer from the two areas: the greeting includes and excludes by form; the barter prices the same students differently; same concept, two mechanisms, both evidenced.

## Check yourself

### Check yourself

The three groups, each area named.

Viewpoint, methods, concepts, ethics on every read.

Section A's triangle connected.

Comparison through shared concepts, evidenced.