**Levels of Cross-cultural Awareness**

In 1976 Robert Hanvey wrote about the things “we will need to know and understand if we are to cope with the challenges of an increasingly interdependent world” (2). He proposed progress through five dimensions: "perspective consciousness, 'state of the planet' awareness, **cross-cultural awareness**, knowledge of global dynamics, and awareness of human choices" (2). He defined dimension 3, cross-cultural awareness, as “awareness of the diversity of ideas and practices to be found in human societies around the world, of how such ideas and practices compare, and including some limited recognition of how the ideas and ways of one’s own society might be viewed from other vantage points” (10). Hanvey proposed **four** discernible **levels** within dimension 3. He noted that the lower levels, while not the ultimate goal, are necessary steps in the process by which “the strangeness” of other ways becomes “less strange” (16). He illustrated the four levels in the chart below which is missing one column of information for the activity. A 2004 publication of his full article funded by the NEH is online.

Use the chart below to fill in the kinds of internationalized experiences that may cultivate each level of cross-cultural awareness.

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| Levels | Cross-Cultural Awareness | Activities or Experiences that Bring About Awareness | Interpretation of Culture |
| I | Awareness of *superficial* or very *visible* cultural traits or stereotypes |  | **Unbelievable**  exotic, bizarre |
| II | Awareness of *significant* and *subtle* cultural traits that contrast markedly with one’s own |  | **Unbelievable**  frustrating, irrational |
| III | Awareness of *significant* and *subtle* cultural traits that contrast markedly with one’s own |  | **Believable**  reasonable, explainable |
| IV | Awareness of how another culture *feels* from the standpoint of *an insider* |  | **Believable** because of subjective familiarity |
|  |  | <http://www.globaled.org/an_att_glob_persp_04_11_29.pdf> |  |

Source: Hanvey, Robert. “An Attainable Global Perspective.” New York: The American Forum for Global Education. 2004. Web