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Appreciate Similarities and Differences Between People

TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will compare and discuss diversity in physical and personality characteristics among class members.

RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

In our diverse society, an appreciation for the uniqueness of each individual can enhance our ability to socialize and work with others. Likewise, understanding the similarities between people can make an important contribution toward peaceful co-existence.

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

❑ STEP 1: Update Journal

I'm different from others in these ways . . .

❑ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"One word that describes the way I look is ____."

❑ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will compare how you are the same and different from others in this room."

❑ STEP 4: Activity - 15 Minutes

To introduce Unit 1, go over the **Student Letter** and discuss the major topic areas of this unit. Allow students to observe similarities and differences in each other by grouping themselves on opposite sides of the room using the following directions: "Everyone who is ____ stand on the right side of the room; those who are ____ stand on the left side." Fill in the blanks with examples provided below:

- Over 5'5" - Under 5'5
- Hair above chin - Hair below chin
- Light brown/blond hair - Dark brown /black hair
- Light color clothes - Dark color clothes

Instruct students to notice who is in each group and discuss these questions: "Did the groups change each time? Did everyone in the class get into your group at least once?"

❑ STEP 5: Activity - 15 Minutes

Go over the worksheet **Are We All Different?** with the class. Complete the worksheet for yourself to use as an example on the overhead/screen image. Read through each selection, discussing your answers. Have fun as the students offer their ideas. After you have modeled the activity, have students complete their worksheet. Circulate to offer help with reading, vocabulary and directions. Give continual positive feedback, encouragement and suggestions where needed.



PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Unit 1	LESSON 1
Dear Students,	
This is your opportunity to build your personal power. The skills you will learn in the Personal Management unit will give you the tools you need to make your future successful and happy.	
To build your personal power, you will take an honest look at your strengths and weaknesses. This will allow you to make the right decisions about your future.	
By building your personal power, you will learn to accept yourself and be happy with who you are. You also will learn to take responsibility for your behavior and your actions, which is the first step toward success in adult life.	
The Personal Management unit will give you an opportunity to learn that we are all more alike than different. You then will have the skills to see value in every person and accept their differences.	
We wish you a happy and positive journey as you begin to explore and build your PERSONAL POWER!	
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□ STEP 6: Activity - 15 Minutes

After students individually complete the worksheet, have them share their answers in pairs, comparing and discussing each item. Circulate to offer encouragement to the pairs. Continue to give positive feedback. In the large group, ask for a show of hands as you go over the worksheet **Are We All Different** by asking: "Are you more like _____ or _____?"

□ STEP 7: Evaluate Outcomes

I like being different or similar (students answer with either word) "_____."

□ STEP 8: Connecting Activity

Compare yourself with a friend or family member. Write one way you are different and similar to that person to hand in for next class.

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PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Unit 1 LESSON 1

ARE WE ALL DIFFERENT?

ARE YOU MORE LIKE OR

Directions: Read each pair of words. Choose the one most like you. Mark an X on the line on either side of the middle marker to show your choice. Be prepared to talk about your choice.

1. red	_____	blue
2. winter	_____	summer
3. jeans	_____	dress-up
4. funny	_____	serious
5. dress shoes	_____	tennis shoes
6. truck	_____	car
7. candy	_____	hamburger
8. piano	_____	guitar
9. open door	_____	closed door

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Optional: Develop an online survey using items from the handout. Free online surveys can be found through a search engine.

KEY WORDS

different

same

change

similar

appearance

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Student Handouts: **Student Letter**, page 15; **Are We All Different?**, page 16.
- Prepare a screen image of page 16.
- Prepare personal comments and examples.

SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Writing, Listening, Speaking
- Thinking Skills: Decision-Making, Reasoning
- Personal Qualities: Self-Esteem, Sociability