Universals of Culture
A list of 10 cultural universals

1) THEMES
   a) Values
   b) Ethics
   c) Symbols

2) ECONOMICS
   a) Trade and money
   b) Division of labor
   c) Technology
      i) Communication systems
      ii) Transportation
      iii) Inventions

3) GEOGRAPHIC SETTING
   a) Influence of other civilizations
   b) Resources
   c) Topographical characteristics

4) FOOD, CLOTHING, AND SHELTER
   a) Food (methods of production and animal domestication)
   b) Clothing and adornment
   c) Shelter, dwellings, and architecture

Source: Adapted by Jennifer Hanzak, FAIR School, Minneapolis, Minn., from DIG Simulation by Jerry Lipetsky, published by Interact
5) POLITICAL ORGANIZATION
   a) Government
   b) Law enforcement
   c) War and peace

6) FAMILY AND KIN
   a) Marriage and type of family groupings
   b) Child training and rites of passage
   c) Roles and responsibilities

7) ATTITUDE TOWARD THE “UNKNOWN”
   a) Religious beliefs
   b) Religious practices
   c) Scientific understandings
   d) Death rituals

8) ESTHETIC VALUES
   a) Art
   b) Music
   c) Dance, drama, literature

9) COMMUNICATIONS
   a) Language
   b) Number systems

10) RECREATION
    a) Games and sports
    b) Use of leisure time

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