We and They
by: Rudyard Kipling

Father, Mother, and Me,
Sister and Auntie say
All the people like us are We,
And every one else is They.
And They live over the sea,
While We live over the way,
But - would you believe it?
- They look upon We
As only a sort of They

We eat pork and beef
With cow-horn-handled knives.
They who gobble Their rice off a leaf,
Are horrified out of Their lives;
And They who live up a tree,
And feast on grubs and clay,
(Isn't it scandalous?) look upon We
As a simply disgusting They!

We eat kitcheny food.
We have doors that latch.
They drink milk or blood,
Under an open thatch.
We have Doctors to fee.
They have Wizards to pay.
And (impudent heathen!) They
look upon We
As a quite impossible They!

All good people agree,
And all good people say,
All nice people, like Us, are We
And every one else is They:
But if you cross over the sea,
Instead of over the way,
You may end by (think of it!)
looking on We
As only a sort of They!

Reflection Questions

1. What cultural elements are addressed in this poem?
2. How do our cultural attitudes affect how we perceive people from different cultures?
3. Reflect on an experience you have had that challenged your cultural assumptions.
"It's all Greek to Me"

Terminologies

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<th>Culture</th>
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<th>Individualism vs. Collectivism</th>
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<th>M-Time vs. P-Time</th>
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"It's all Greek to Me"

Proverbs Activity: Choose two proverbs from another culture and explain the value they represent and how it might play out in the advising context.

Edward Hall's Iceberg

(Hall, 1981)
"It's all Greek to Me"
Tool Kit: Practicing Cross-Cultural Humility

**Critical Self-Reflection**

- Map your Cultural Orientation with this helpful resource: [Click Here to Access]
- Acknowledge...
- Consider...

**Lifelong Learning: Relinquishing the Role of Expert**

Name an international campus event that would interest you:  
When listening to someone’s story, it might be wise to...

**Continue Reading...**

1. Foreign to Familiar (Lanier, 2010)
2. When the West Teaches the East (Al-Issa, 2005)
3. Beyond Culture (Hall, 1981)