Level 5 Geography - Looking at the Concept of Culture

PEEL in Practice: 1300 ideas for quality teaching
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The aim of the following procedures was to determine what culture means and to compare our own culture with that of the Kalahari bushmen.

The procedures adopted ensured student engagement, a purpose for reading the test, linked student knowledge (Australian culture) to the unknown (Kalahari culture) and encouraged higher order thinking skills of analysis, evaluation and synthesis.

1. The class brainstormed the meaning of CULTURE and ideas were noted on the whiteboard.

2. Students were given three different coloured sticky notes an on each were to write something that related to the Australian culture using a different colour for each of the following categories:
   - Work/School
   - Home/Family
   - Leisure/Entertainment

3. Students were asked to read out their comments focusing on what they thought no one else would have written, and making sure that they did not repeat what someone else had said.

   They were then to paste their sticky note on the poster headed AUSTRALIAN CULTURE at the front of the room, putting the same colours together to form categories.

4. We then began to investigate the culture of the Kalahari bushmen. Students used text books to find information on the three categories listed above (as for Australia). A similar process using different coloured sticky notes was used and the creation of a poster on the KALAHARI BUSHMEN CULTURE completed the process.

5. Using the posters which contained details of both cultures, the students completed a Venn Diagram to show differences and similarities between the two cultures.