

## CULTURAL RESILIENCY FOR YOUTH:

### I-ACCT: Transferring Your Cultural Resiliency into 21st Century Skills

*Cultural Resiliency*<sup>1</sup> is a term used for the level of proficiency in five competencies identified by E3, based on lived experiences. We propose that these lived experiences develop skills/competencies that have enabled students to survive perceived hardships or struggles. The goal of E3 is to assist educators to recognize these competencies in their students in order to engage them in learning. Each of the following five competencies is derived from life experiences and can be correlated to 21<sup>st</sup> century skills:

**“Don't let the negativity given to you by the world disempower you. Instead give to yourself that which empowers you.” ~Les Brown**

I-ACCT	Example in a Real World Setting	Example in an Academic Setting
<b>INNOVATION:</b> <i>Ability to create</i>	Experiences such as artistic ability is innovative because you create your own ways to express yourself. Example 1: _____ Example 2: _____	<i>I was the only one who included background music in my power point presentation.</i>
<b>ADAPTABILITY:</b> <i>Ability to ease between transitions</i>	When you move from one home to another or must share a room with siblings, you adapt to sharing the space with each other. Example 1: _____ Example 2: _____	<i>When I didn't get the grade I wanted, I adapted my study habits so that next time I would be better prepared.</i>
<b>CRITICAL ANALYSIS:</b> <i>Ability to identify various factors &amp; perspectives</i>	As you go from your neighborhood to your school, you notice that you have to act a certain way to fit in at home and another way to fit in at school. Example 1: _____ Example 2: _____	<i>I ask questions when I am learning something so that I can understand it better:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Who, what, when, where, why</i></li> <li>• <i>according to who, are the sources credible, what makes a source credible</i></li> </ul>
<b>CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION:</b> <i>Ability to network</i>	At home you speak Spanish, with some of your friends you speak Spanglish, and with other friends you speak English that includes slang. Example 1: _____ Example 2: _____	<i>When I walk into the classroom, I know how to speak in a respectful way to my teacher without using slang or other inappropriate language.</i>
<b>TEAMWORK:</b> <i>Ability to utilize one's own network</i>	You play a team sport and your friends decide to have a fundraiser through a garage sale. You each find 10 things to contribute and work together on creating a flyer and distributing it all around. Example 1: _____ Example 2: _____	<i>When working on a group project, I am a good team player by listening, giving my opinion, and helping complete the homework that is needed.</i>

1. <sup>1</sup> Cultural Resilience, Joyce Strand & Robert Peacock, 2003, Tribal College Journal and *Ordinary Magic: Resilience process in development*, A.S. Maten, 2001, American Psychologist, 56, 227-238.