# ***Cultural Chemistry***

**Cultural Chemistry** is a fun and useful activity for helping you . . .

* consider and share with classmates what mix of cultures influences and makes you unique
* decide which of the cultures that influence you is *dominant*
* think about and share with the class:
* what you most admire about your dominant culture
* what people most often misunderstand about your dominant culture
* what one thing people of your dominant culture most need to learn
* see how classmates view their *own* cultural identities.

**Instructions:**

1. Draw a sketch for a **molecule or some other interesting organism or structure** that represents the main cultures that influence your life. Feel free to include cultures that come with your racial heritage or your national heritage, the part of the world you are from or the part of town you are from, your religious traditions or the music you listen to, the sports you love or the hobbies you pursue, to whatever extent this might be called a culture.

Sample sketch of Mr. C’s Cultural Chemistry molecule:

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**Instructions (cont):**

1. Decide which of these cultures is the **dominant** influence on your life.
2. Write brief answers beneath your sketch or on the back to these three questions:
3. What about your dominant culture makes you most **proud**?
4. What about your dominant culture do others most often **misunderstand**?
5. What is the one thing people in your dominant culture most need to **learn**?
6. Find a partner and share your cultural chemistry findings, and your answers to the three questions above. You will need to pay special attention to your partner’s story.
7. Introduce your partner to the class, using his or her Cultural Chemistry and answers to the three questions.





