The literature on the nature of stereotypes highlights the controversy of stereotypes both from theoretical and practical points of view. Theoretically viewed, stereotypes are both natural and unnatural. Being cognitive products of the categorization process, stereotypes are natural. The overview presented a variegated picture reflecting contradicting attitudes to the management of stereotypes. Some scholars affirm that the treatment of stereotypes is problematic in intercultural education, as eliminating stereotypes is not possible (Lehtonen, 1994). The elicitation was based on the analysis of lexical connotations of ethnic names found in the so-called "semi-free collocations" (Kobozeva, 2000) that are not registered in dictionaries but are known to all cultural bearers. High culture: The art, music, theater, literature created by culture. Popular culture: Contemporary music/films/trends. Anthropological Culture: The ways that people of a certain group behave/live among themselves. High culture: The art, music, theater, literature created by culture. Popular culture: Contemporary music/films/trends.


34 Cross-cultural Communication: Cross-cultural Communication is the process of sending and receiving messages between people whose cultural background could lead them to interpret verbal and non-verbal signs differently. Why use literature in the ELT classroom? Literary texts provide opportunities for multi-sensorial classroom experiences and can appeal to learners with different learning styles. Texts can be supplemented by audio-texts, music CDs, film clips, podcasts, all of which enhance even further the richness of the sensory input that students receive. Literary texts offer a rich source of linguistic input and can help learners to practise the four skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing - in addition to exemplifying grammatical structures and presenting new vocabulary. Does it require much cultural or literary background knowledge? Is it culturally offensive in any way? Can it be easily exploited for language learning purposes?