

Scenario #1



Remember *Gulliver's Travels*? Written in the early 1700's by Jonathan Swift, this delightful book recounts voyages to one strange place after another. Gulliver's third voyage takes him to the flying island of Laputa whose inhabitants speak a language Gulliver does not know.

Suppose you were to travel with Gulliver to that flying island where you can communicate with people only by using objects that you are carrying with you. Suppose you could take only five things with you to "tell" people on Laputa about yourself. What would those objects be? Once you've decided on them, write them on the chalkboard.

Scenario #2



You are space travelers who have been beamed down to earth from the planet Pegasi. You have been instructed to carefully study life on earth and report back your conclusions. You have ended up in a McDonald's restaurant which you assume is typical for the entire planet. A McDonald's restaurant has thus become your ethnographic "text."

Look for things that might be symbols revealing meanings that human beings have assigned to areas of their life. From your observations of the following things in the restaurant, what might you conclude about life on the planet earth?

Architecture / furnishings

Food

Male / female roles

Family