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*Sir Edward B. Tylor's definition of culture (1871)*

*"Culture... is that complex whole which includes knowledge, beliefs, arts, morals, law, customs, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by [a human] as a member of society."*

What does this definition include or imply about the concept of culture?

Culture includes mental capabilities (thoughts)

behavior (actions)

also, culture is learned

culture is shared

culture is social (exists within group)

culture is an integrated whole

culture is dialectical

Summary from the students' critique: too general (capabilities exist beyond culture), assumes that people are homogeneous and share all of these practices and values, does not allow a room for alternative

**characteristics outside the mainstream society, culture seems to be bound to an institution or something official, does not distinguish habits and capabilities as biological traits/functions from cultural ones, like running.**

**Edward Tylor's was the first who specified that culture is learned and acquired, as opposed to being a biological trait. This was revolutionary against the backdrop of colonialism, racism, and social evolutionism -- the dominant ideologies of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. His definition is also one of the first anthropological definitions of culture.**

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21A.01 How Culture Works  
Fall 2012

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