

# Exasperating and Enriching

How to Survive while “Foreign” Slowly transforms into “Home”

Enriching

Exhausting

**EXHILARATING**

Awesome

Exasperating

# **Speedbump to Missions**

Your First Two Years

## **Exasperating and Enriching**

How to Survive while “Foreign” Slowly transforms into “Home”

## **A Survival Kit for Culture Shock**

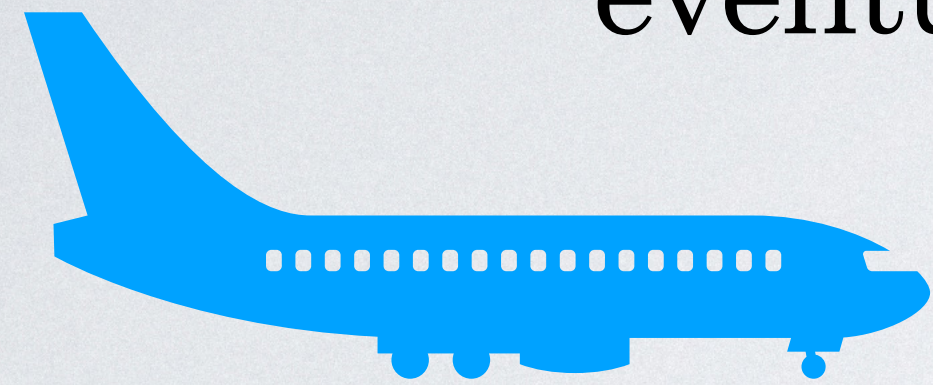
How to Adjust to a New Setting and Flourish



It hurts. But the clouds will eventually lift.

What will it feel like?

Is there anything that can help?



What is happening?

When will it stop?

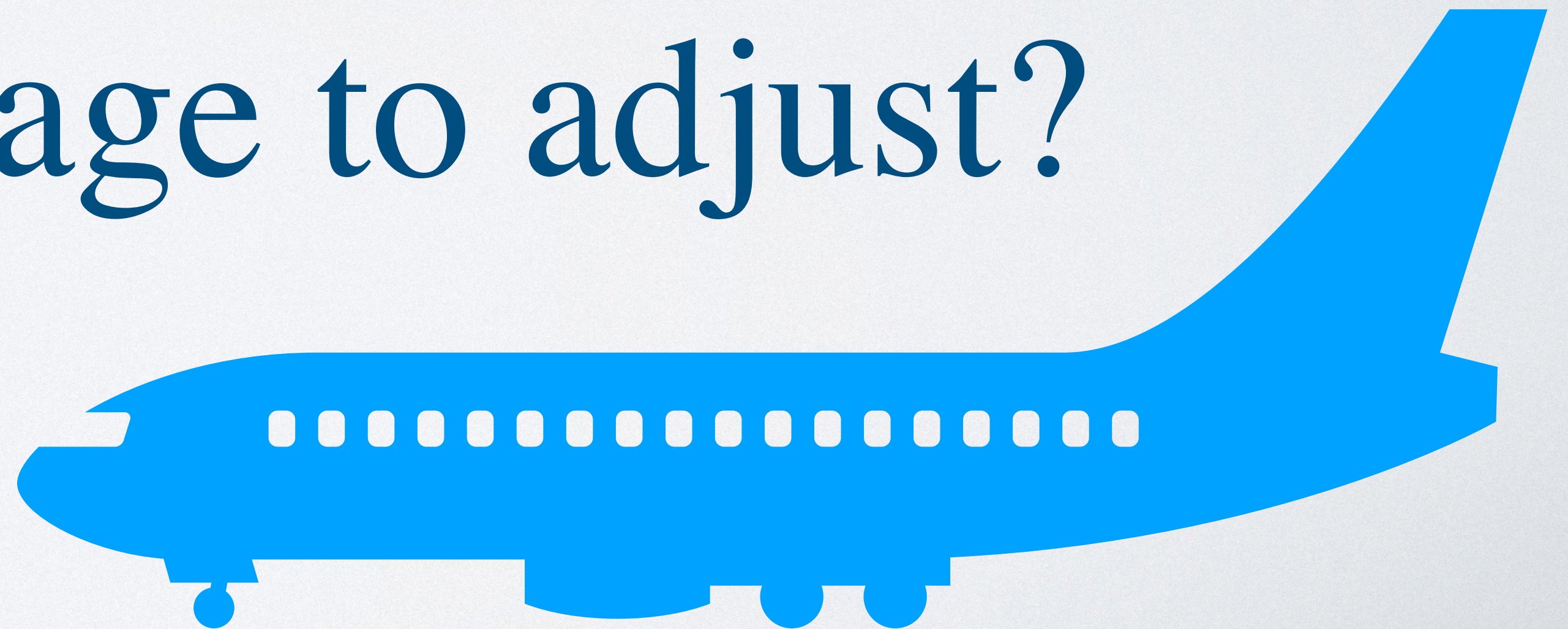


Why is this happening?



Why do I feel this way?

Why can't I manage to adjust?

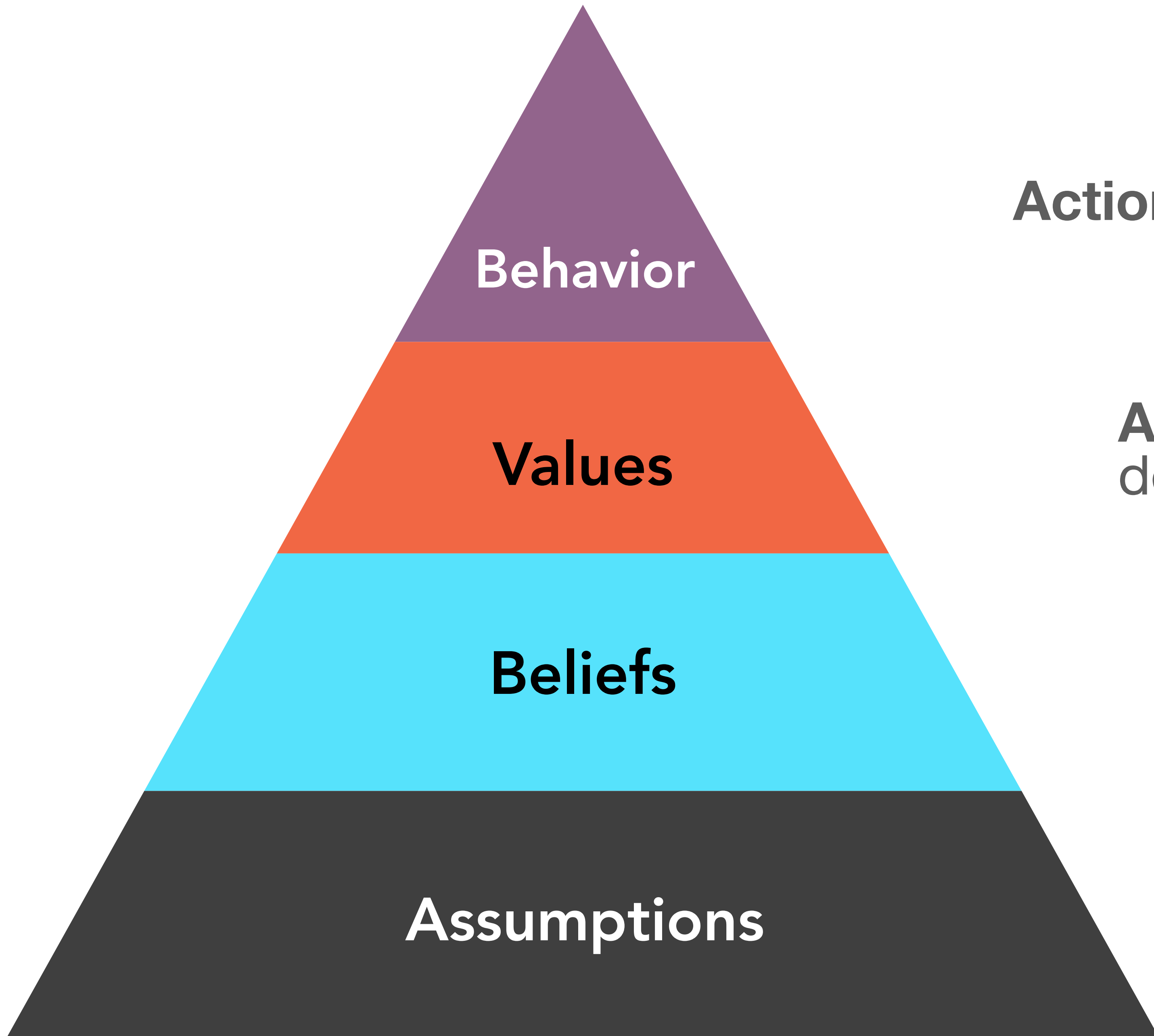


# What is culture?

“The distinctive ideas, customs, social behaviour, products, or way of life of a particular nation, society, people, or period” (OED).

“A system of inherited conceptions expressed in symbolic forms by means of which men communicate, perpetuate, and develop their knowledge about and attitudes toward life.” (Clifford Geertz).

“The complex system of meanings and behaviors that defines the way of life for a group or society” (Conrad Kotak)

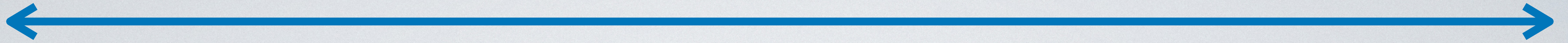


**Actions:** What people do.

**Attitudes:** what is desirable, good or best.

**Knowledge:** what is true or possible.

**Preconceptions:** what is obvious or needs no explanation.



Individualism

Collectivism



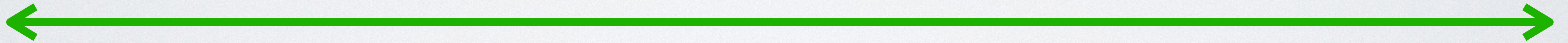
Low Power Distance

High Power Distance



Low Uncertainty Avoidance

High Uncertainty Avoidance



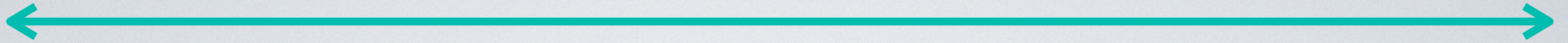
Cooperative Relationships

Competitive Relationships



Direct Communication Styles

Indirect Communication



Inherited Status

Achieved Status



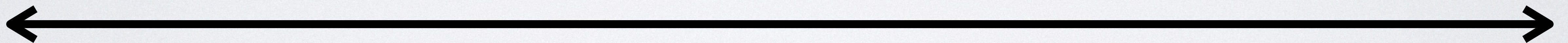
Limited Good

Unlimited Good



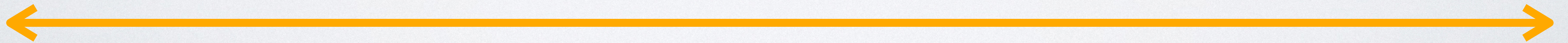
Particularism

Universalism



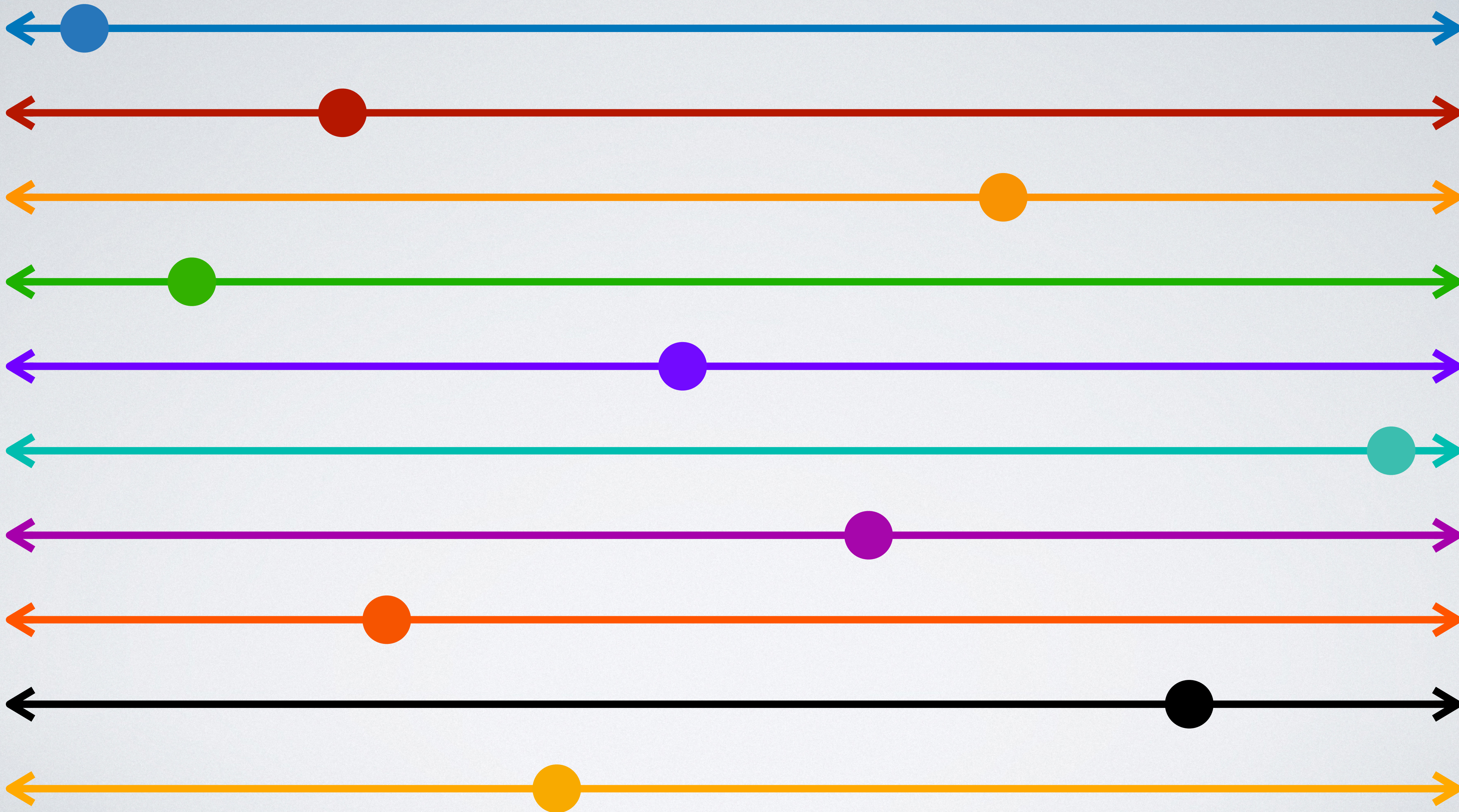
Demonstrative Communication

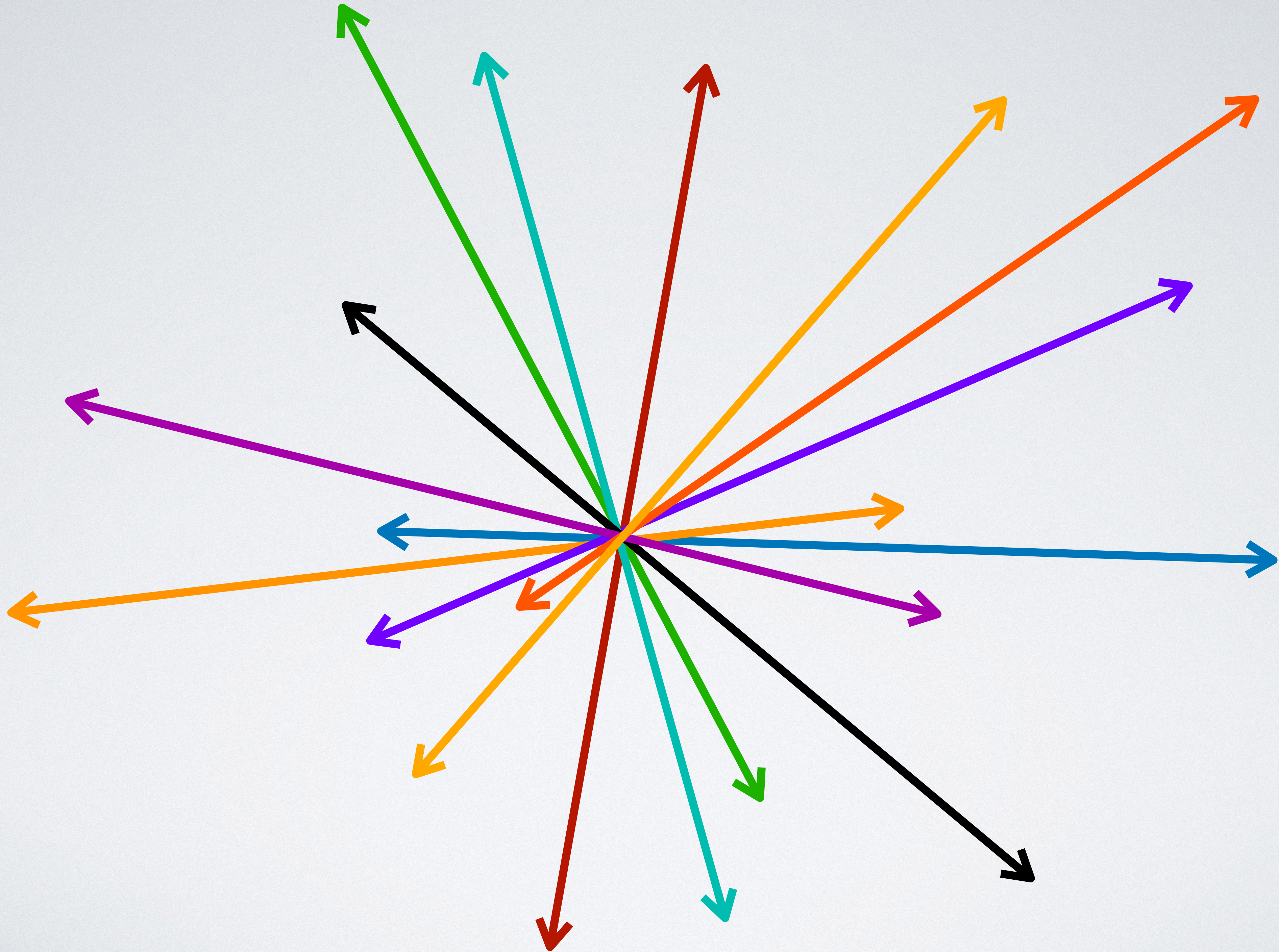
Concealed Restraint



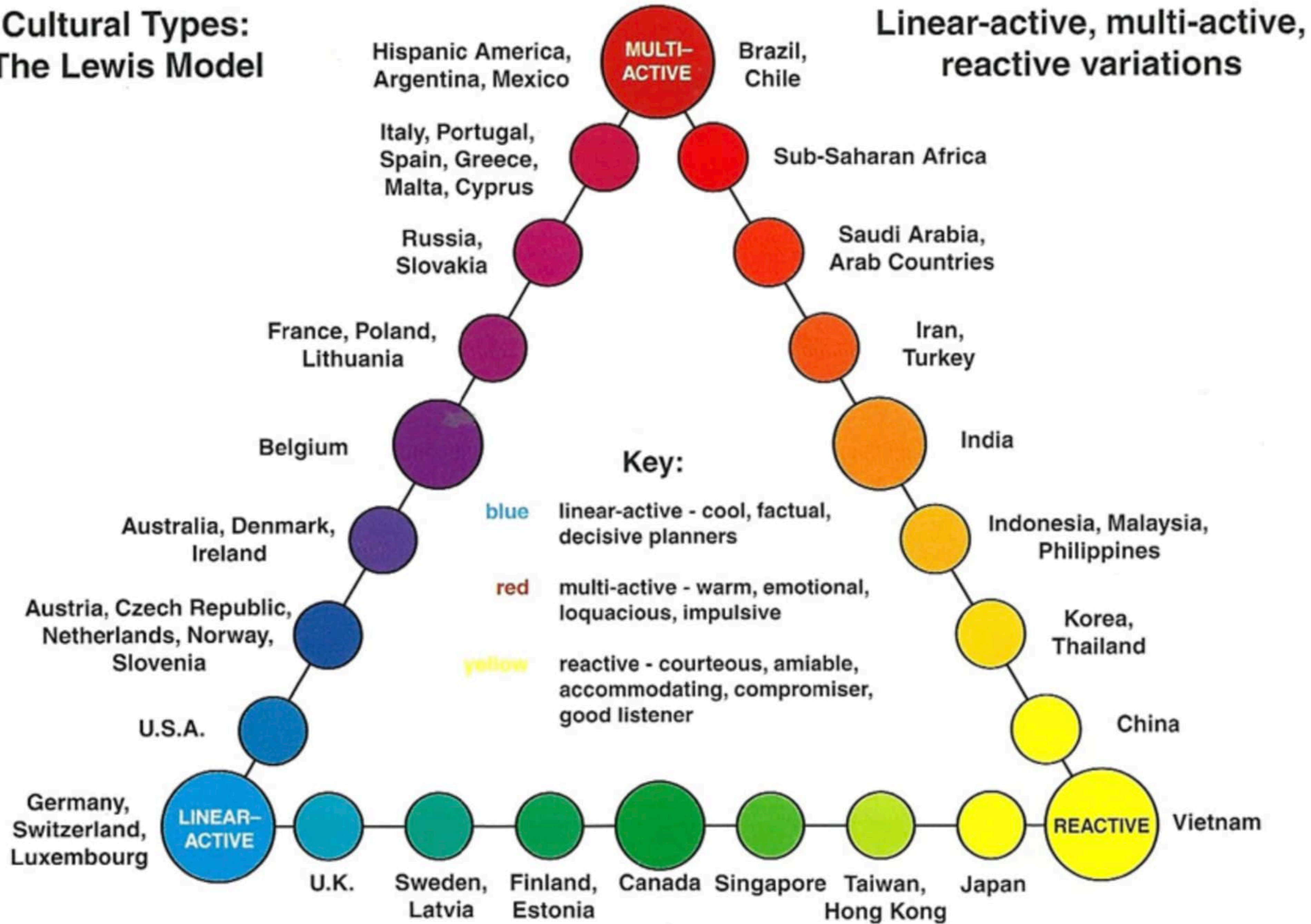
Tight Cultural Grids

Loose Cultural Grids



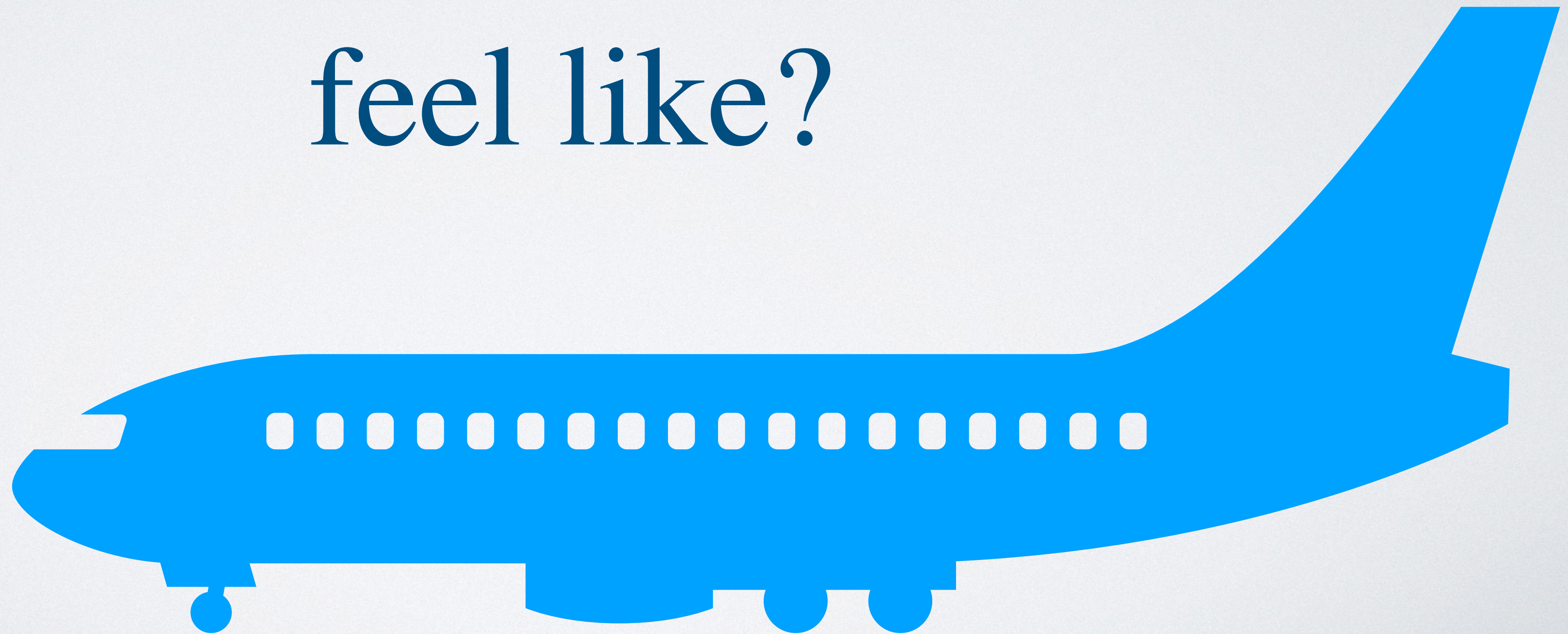


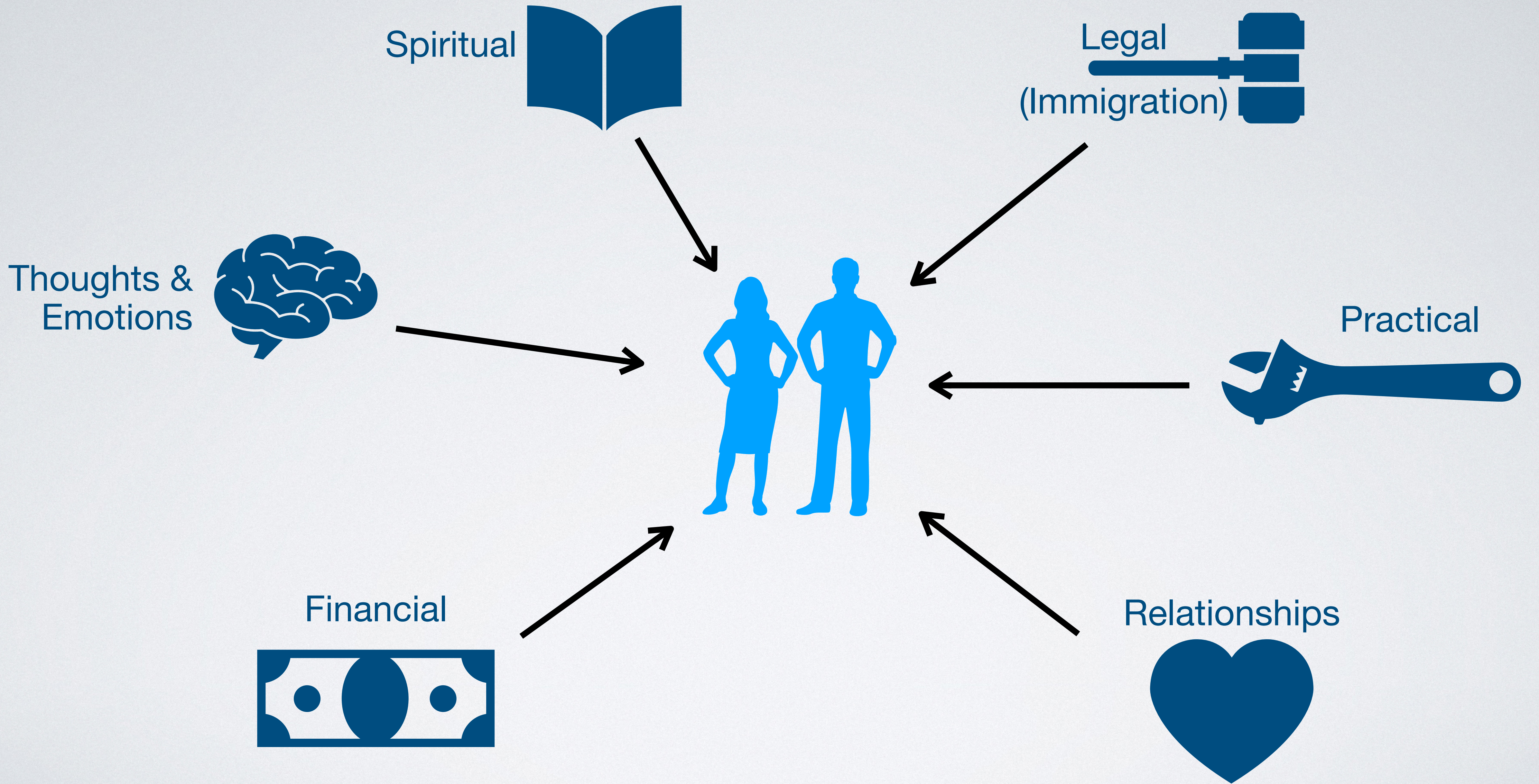
# Cultural Types: The Lewis Model





What will it  
feel like?



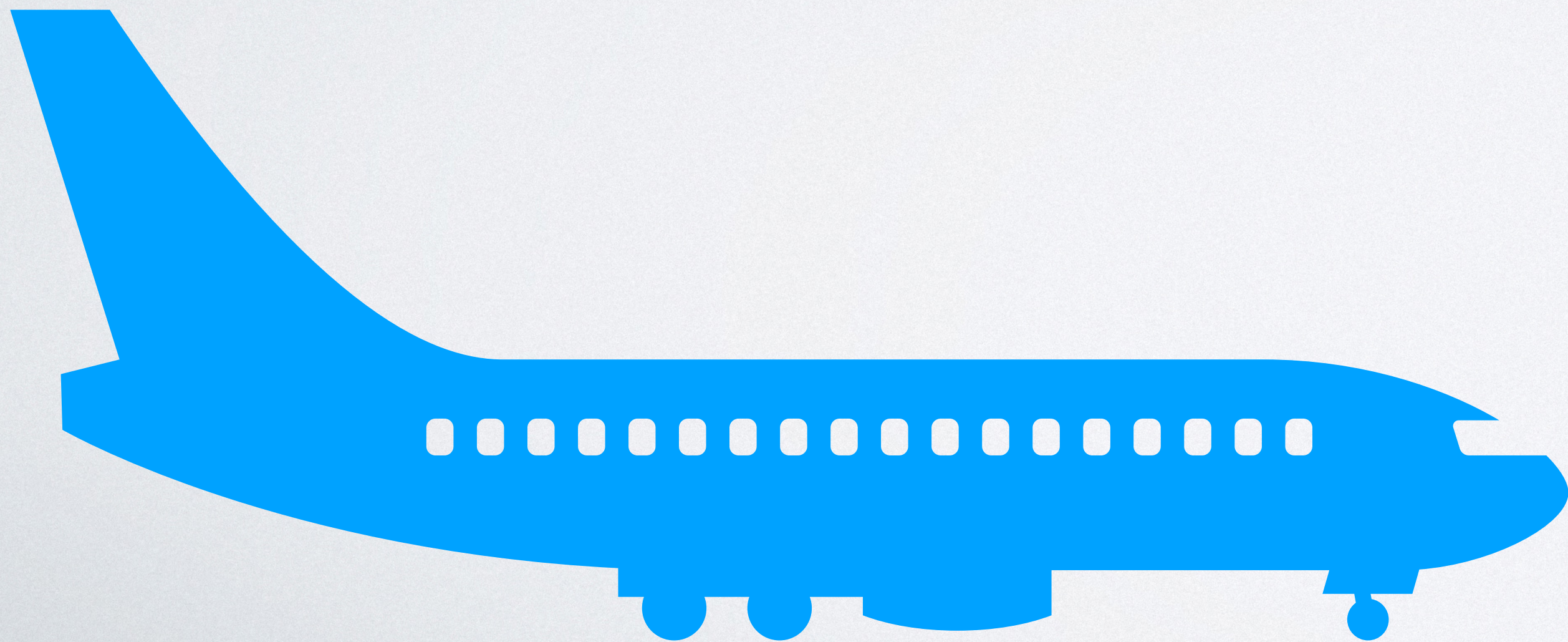


What will it feel like?



How long will  
it last?

What's the  
“normal”  
schedule?





Can anything be  
done about it?



Can I expedite the process?



- Cross Cultural Training

- Language

- Love People

- Honesty

- Embrace the annoyance.

- Fly by your instruments.

- Strengthen your theological grid.

# What is missions?

Transcending cultural, social and geographic barriers so that the gospel can spread to new locations and social groups.

# PHILIPPIANS

## 2:5-11

Who, being in the form  
of God, thought it not  
robbery to be equal with  
God:

But made himself  
of no reputation,

and took upon him  
the form of a servant,

and was made in the likeness  
of men: And being found in  
fashion as a man,

he humbled himself, and became  
obedient unto death,

even the death of  
the cross.

And that every tongue  
should confess that Jesus  
Christ is Lord, to the glory  
of God the Father.

That at the name of Jesus every  
knee should bow, of things in  
heaven, and things in earth, and  
things under the earth;

and given him a  
name which is above  
every name:

Wherefore God  
also hath highly  
exalted him,



