

Name _____

The Secret Rules We All Follow: Understanding Social Norms

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. (Answers will vary) - Students should describe a hypothetical situation, their feelings of culture shock, and their strategies for adapting to the new environment.
2. Conformity to social norms can promote social cohesion by fostering a sense of belonging and predictability. However, it can stifle individuality by pressuring people to conform even when it goes against their values or beliefs. Students should provide examples and discuss the pros and cons.
3. (Answers will vary) - Students should identify a specific social norm they would like to change, explain their reasons, and propose potential actions or strategies to contribute to that change.
4. (Answers will vary) - Students should choose a historical or contemporary example of challenging a social norm, describe the norm and the challenges faced, and discuss the positive outcomes of challenging it.

