

# [Analysis of the human cultural identity](https://assignbuster.com/analysis-of-the-human-cultural-identity/)

Analysis of the Human Cultural Identity   
This paper is intended to contain the analysis of the human cultural   
identity, as seen in the following five historical cultural periods:   
Enlightenment Culture; Greco-Roman Culture; Judeo-Christian Culture;   
Renaissance-Reformation Culture; and Industrialization-Modernism Culture. It   
also embodies examples of each era that are clearly stated, and how they relate   
The cultural identity of the Enlightenment can be described as emphasizing   
the possibilities of human reason. This idea can be illustrated with such   
examples as Thomas Jefferson, Denis Diderot, and Protestantism. Thomas   
Jefferson was considered among one of the most brilliant American exponents of   
the Enlightenment culture. He had the time and the resources to educate himself   
in many topics including history, literature, law, architecture, science, and   
philosophy. He had the motivation and the connections to apply Enlightenment   
political philosophy to nation-building. Denis Diderot was a French   
encyclopedist and philosopher, who also composed plays, novels, essays, and art.

He greatly influenced other Enlightenment thinkers with his translations of   
Encyclopedie ou dictionnaire raisonne des sciences, des arts et des metiers,   
usually known as Encyclopedie. He used this translation as a powerful   
propaganda weapon against Ecclesiastical authority, and the semifeudal social   
reforms of the time. Protestantism is a good example also. It is one of the   
three major divisions of Christianity. It displays the release of traditional   
religion and the movement to worldly learning and the rise of protests against   
the controlled way of expressing one's self. It allows the human himself to   
reason out the way that he thinks, instead of an authority telling him how to do   
The Industrialism-Modernism culture is a culture that represents social,   
economical, and scientific advancement, as well as self-doubt, uncertainty, and   
alienation. These traits can be characterized with such examples as Werner   
Heisenberg, Epicureanism, and Eli Whitney. Werner Heisenberg was a German   
physicist known especially for his development in quantum mechanics and his   
principle of indeterminacy, or theory of uncertainty. This theory explained how   
it is impossible to know specifically the position and momentum of a particle,   
an electron for example, with accuracy. This demonstrates the distinctive   
uncertainty of the culture. It created a strong trend of mysticism among   
scientists who perceive it as a violation to cause and effect laws.

Epicureanism is a philosophy based on the teachings of the Greek philosopher   
Epicuris. His views coincide with those of Heisenberg in the way that they   
display the incertitude of how it is impossible to know exactly what things will   
do or go. In example, he suggested that even atoms are free to move around   
spontaneously, without order. Any invention or its inventor would fit nicely   
into this cultural topic. Eli Whitney, for instance, and the cotton gin. This   
invention was one of the most important, it created a very substantial movement   
in history. Whitney used scientific knowledge to produce a machine that   
produced economic progress along with the advancement of less manual labor, and   
The Greco-Roman culture is one of a male dominant society, and conflicting   
obedience views. The idea was that men were controlled by reason, and women   
were controlled by passion, and that if women were not controlled by the   
practical reasoning men, that disastrous consequences would occur. The male   
prevalence in this civilization was evident in all perspectives of life   
including the arts that were created during this time period. For instance, the   
women were portrayed as clothed, mysterious, and deviant looking and the men as   
nude, perfected, and authoritative. This philosophical belief, was taken to the   
absolute extreme. Men were in a sense, afraid, of the disastrous situations   
that women might create if given the chance to do so. Hellenism and Hebraism   
are other Greek philosophies that deal with the ideas of how to think and act.

Hellenism is the stressing to see things as they really are, right   
thinking, reasoning for oneself, and Hebraism is the stressing of conduct and   
obedience, right acting, and obeying God's commandments. These two   
conflicting views were struggled with by every individual.

The Judeo-Christian culture is one of holy relics, gothic and Romanesque   
styles, and architectural advances. The holy relics were used to establish a   
higher status among churches. Such tokens as John the Baptist's head could be   
found in the cathedrals across the civilizations. Another way to achieve status   
for a church was to build the tallest facility that was possible. The idea was   
that the bigger the church, the better. This led to styles such as Gothic and   
Romanesque. The best example of the gothic form is Chartres. The cathedral   
used advances like the pointed arch and ribbed vault. The Romanesque form was   
characterized by flying buttresses and stained glass. The flying buttresses not   
only enabled the churches to be built higher, but also gave them a majestic look.

The Renaissance-Reformation culture is that of a revolution of changes in   
western civilization. Humanism, the revival of classical learning and   
speculative inquiry beginning in the fifteenth century in Italy during the early   
Renaissance, disabled the monopolies of the church's learning, and spread the   
ability to gain knowledge. The invention of the printing press with moveable   
type, enabled the supply of books circulating to expand, leading to increased   
ideas throughout Europe. The Reformation took many forms in society, but all of   
them mainly deal with the idea that knowledge is power, and power was obtained   
easier because of the creation of the printing blocks, therefore, enabling   
people to change society because they were more educated.

In conclusion, the preceding information illustrates the cultural periods   
of Enlightenment; Greco-Roman; Judeo-Christian; Renaissance-Reformation; and   
Industrialization-Modernism. Each have examples clearly stated, and explain how   
Bibliography: