

ETHNICITY AND RACISM SHEET

Use these words to fill the gaps: *Irish, Negroid, civil, dogs, kill, rude, backward, believe Yugoslavians, cultural, American Indians, race, fear, distrustful, number, stereotypes, untrue, racism, genes, understand, long noses, different, religious, Japanese, thought, civilised, blame, different*

People often use the word '_____' when they mean 'ethnicity'. It is thought that there are only three main human races:

- African (or _____) people have very curly hair and long bones in their bodies.
- Caucasian people can be found anywhere from Scandinavia to Southern India. The men have body hair and many Caucasian people have _____ in comparison to other races.
- Mongolian people appear to have slanted eyes due to a special fold in the skin. _____ are Mongolian in origin.

There are fewer differences between the races of human beings than there are between varieties of _____! They can breed together easily and the mixture of _____ often gives rise to very beautiful and healthy people.

Ethnicity refers to _____ differences. These are much more important than race differences. There are very few recognisable differences between _____ Catholics and Protestants, but they were happy to _____ each other over cultural and _____ differences in the past. The same point applies to lots of other groups of people who are at _____ war with each other such as the former _____.

Cultural differences can be much more extreme than race differences. American Indians and the _____ have very different cultures although they belong to the same race. In the past, Europeans _____ that they were the only _____ people and that it was their job to civilise the rest of the world. We now know that other cultures have been civilised for a very long time although they have ideas that are _____ from our own.

We also know that other cultures consider our ideas very strange and even _____. We all have a great deal to learn from each other about how the world should be run. Some people still _____ that people of other cultures are to be feared because they are not understood. This belief is known as _____.

People may be racist and _____ other people from different ethnic groups for a _____ of reasons:

- **Fear of the unknown.** People are sometimes very _____ of people who are different and have _____ ideas and behaviour from their own
- **Misunderstanding.** People may not _____ ideas from different cultures. For example, in British culture, people look at you to show they trust you. In Asian cultures, it is _____ to look someone in the eyes.
- **Stereotyping.** Some racial _____ are very threatening and people believe them without thinking.
- **Scapegoating.** People _____ the immigrants for things that are wrong with their society. They claim they are taking their jobs or that they take the housing, even when these things are clearly _____.