regulations that control health benefits or facilitate a multicultu-
ral client’s entry into various hospital departments. A skilled
culture broker may develop and maintain working relation-
ships with multicultural and bilingual professionals, staff, and
members of the local community. When necessary, you may
secure linguistically appropriate services by working with a
professional medical interpreter when a client does not speak
English or has limited English proficiency. You may act as a
culture broker if conflict occurs in a culturally diverse staff.

Finally, you may use culture brokering within your own pro-
profession to bridge the gap between disparate areas of nursing.

Culture Brokering Model
Jezewski (1993, 1995) is credited with the development of a
culture brokering model evolved from health-related, anthro-
pological, and business literature sources. This model of
conflict resolution is based on several studies of clients dis-
playing vulnerability from extreme circumstances that hin-

An assessment tool like the one below will help you structure your
assessment to include the salient points that are important to cover.
Note: The greater the number of positive responses, the greater the
degree to which the person may identify with his or her traditional
culture. The one exception to positive answers is the question about
whether or not a person’s name was changed.

1. Where was your mother born? _____
2. Where was your father born? _____
3. Where were your grandparents born?
   a. Your mother’s mother? _____
   b. Your mother’s father? _____
   c. Your father’s mother? _____
   d. Your father’s father? _____
4. How many brothers _____ and sisters _____ do you have?
5. What setting did you grow up in? Urban _____ Rural _____
   Suburban _____
6. What country did your parents grow up in?
   Father _____
   Mother _____
7. How old were you when you came to the United States?
   _____
8. How old were your parents when they came to the United
   States?
   Mother _____ Father _____
9. When you were growing up, who lived with you? _____
10. Have you maintained contact with
    a. Aunts, uncles, cousins? (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
    b. Brothers and sisters? (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
    c. Parents? (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
    d. Your own children? (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
11. Did most of your aunts, uncles, cousins live near your home?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
12. Approximately how often did you visit your family members
    who lived outside your home?
    (1) Daily _____ (2) Weekly _____ (3) Monthly _____
    (4) Once a year or less _____ (5) Never _____
13. Was your original family name changed?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
14. What is your religious preference?
    (1) Catholic _____ (2) Jewish _____ (3) Protestant _____
    (4) Denomination _____ (5) Other _____ (6) None _____
15. Is your spouse the same religion as you?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
16. Is your spouse the same ethnic background as you?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
17. What kind of school did you go to?
    (1) Public _____ (2) Private _____ (3) Parochial _____
18. As an adult, do you live in a neighborhood where the
    neighbors are the same religion and ethnic background as
    yourself?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
19. Do you belong to a religious institution?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
20. Would you describe yourself as an active member?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
21. How often do you attend your religious institution?
    (1) More than once a week _____ (2) Weekly _____
    (3) Monthly _____ (4) Special holidays only _____
    (5) Never _____
22. Do you practice your religion at home?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
    (If yes, please specify)
    (3) Praying _____ (4) Bible reading _____
    (5) Diet _____ (6) Celebrating religious holidays _____
23. Do you prepare foods of your ethnic background?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
24. Do you participate in ethnic activities?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
    (If yes, please verify)
    (3) Singing _____ (4) Holiday celebrations _____
    (5) Dancing _____ (6) Festivals _____
    (7) Costumes _____ (8) Other _____
25. Are your friends from the same religious background
    as you?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
26. Are your friends from the same ethnic background
    as you?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____
27. What is your native language? _____
28. Do you speak this language?
    (1) Prefer _____ (2) Occasionally _____ (3) Rarely _____
29. Do you read your native language?
    (1) Yes _____ (2) No _____