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## LANGUAGE AS A WINDOW TO UNIVERSAL CULTURE

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Most cross-cultural studies have focussed on the contrasts between two cultures and have tended to ignore the more insightful observation that cultural comparisons may reveal universal human behavior (Scovel, 1994). Using the example of Universal Grammar (UG) from linguistics, I will attempt to present evidence that by studying cultural categories from a sample of different languages, it is possible to argue for a Universal Culture (UC) which is manifested in different but consistent ways among the world languages. I will conclude with a claim that the notion of a UC should influence our perceptions of how classes on culture and language should be taught.