

Low Comprehension Answer

Exam 2 Question: People from a variety of marginalized racial minority groups tend to claim a more prominent role for racism in current events than do White Americans. Mainstream discourse tends to portray these claims of racism as a form of exaggeration or even a strategy of “playing the race card”. Apply decolonial strategies of a cultural psychology analysis to respond to this characterization.

Points possible: 10

Points awarded: 3

Student Sample: To begin with, decolonial strategies in this circumstance would deal with finding and applying ways to get colonial/past thoughts from history or people who held views acceptable in the past to begin taking steps that begin and start to promote a more functional and equal society. One strategy to begin with may deal with a White American and finding out the location in which they were raised and if it was of a state known for more racist views, it may be good to move them to a city with a higher diverse population or even to a community of more minority groups. When moving them encourage them to attend events in the community and make friends of all races even their own, when doing this it will force the White American to view and live how minorities are. They will hopefully witness first-hand the struggles and hardships these people of color are forced to deal with that the average white American isn't even aware of. It is shown that the opportunities for people of the minority groups are not as good as what they would be for White Americans and with this adjustment to play a role in society they should make friends and begin relating to the people of color on a deeper level.

Rubric and Evaluation:

Students get 2 points for defining the ‘normalizing’ strategy: Student received 0 points for failing to provide any definition.

Students get 3 points for applying the normalizing strategy to racial minority perceptions of racism: Student received 1 point for starting to identify structural inequalities that may contribute to greater awareness of racism among racial minorities.

Students get 2 points for defining the ‘denaturalizing’ strategy: Student received 0 points for failing to provide any definition.

Students get 3 points for applying the denaturalizing strategy to White American perceptions of racism: Student received 2 points for identifying structural factors, such as racial segregation, that may contribute to White Americans not perceiving racism.

Overall comments: The student did not identify or define either decolonizing strategy. They did attempt to explain White American's perception of racism in terms of (a lack of) intergroup contact. This shows some level of comprehension of how cultural & environmental factors lead to ignorance of racism, but fails to extend this to the outright denial of racism described in the prompt. The student also starts to acknowledge the structural inequalities experienced by racial minorities, but does not explain how this may account for minorities' claims about racism in society.