 **What Happens When Cultures Meet?**

**Introduction**

* When cultures meet, various things can happen;
* Some cultures, like the Amish, want to keep their core values and beliefs unchanged by secular values;
* Called cultural isolation;
* At the opposite extreme is globalization;
* International trade has spread products, values, music, and language worldwide.

**Cultural Assimilation**

* When one culture is absorbed by another;
* English and French are the two official languages of Canada’s federal government;
* While Canada does not expect immigrants to completely assimilate, it is assumed they will learn one of these two languages;
* 150 years ago, Canada expected all people to adopt “Canadian” ways including language;
* Even Aboriginal children were taken from their families to residential schools.

**Multiculturalism**

* In Canada, the outlook of assimilation has been replaced;
* The government is now committed to multiculturalism;
* Brought about by PM Trudeau in 1971;
* Realized that Canada was not just built by the English and the French;
* Eastern European families came to the Prairies in the 1800s for the free land.

**What is Multiculturalism Policy?**

* There are many multicultural countries in the world;
* However, Canada is the only country with an official policy of multiculturalism;
* Having a policy means that Canada officially recognizes and supports all cultures living in Canada;
* Means the government gives financial support for parades, festivals, and other events.

**Conclusion**

* If a person was Filipino before coming to an assimilated nation like the United States, they would be called Filipino-American;
* However, in a pluralism country like Canada, that same person would be considered Filipino **and** Canadian.