

## **Culture Shock**

You move to a new state or country to go to school and everything is so different you feel like an alien in an alien world. Though you may be reluctant to say that you're afraid, you feel uneasy, anxious, if not intimidated by all the strange sights and all the strange people.

What do you remember about your first visual impressions of Iowa City? Did the Iowa landscape seem inviting, or forbidding? Did anything in this university town or the Iowa River remind you of your home? Did anything make you feel like you'd enjoy spending several years of your life here? And what about the people, the Iowans, who welcomed, or ignored, you? What did they do and say to make you feel less anxious or more intimidated?

After showing what you saw and how you were treated those first lonely or exciting days, please go on to describe how you have overcome your cultural shock and adapted to the strange new world called Iowa City, Iowa, USA. What particular aspect of this place still displeases, or annoys, or upsets you? And finally, if there's anything about your present home away from home that you now enjoy, talk about that for a while.