

ABSTRACT

M.Putra Hadi B.Bara, Registration Number. 2191220004, Investigating Students' Culture Shock: A Qualitative Study in Coastal Areas in North Sumatra, English Literature Program, English and Literature Department Universitas Negeri Medan, A Thesis, 2023.

This research aimed to investigate the realization of the phases of culture shock and to find out the cultural elements experienced by coastal (Tanjung Balai) students who studied at Universitas Negeri Medan through Samovar et al. (2010) theory. This research used qualitative research by Aspers & Corte (2021). Interviews and questionnaires as instruments of the research on twenty participants who studied at Universitas Negeri Medan. This research showed that coastal (Tanjung Balai) students experienced four phases of culture shock. Such as the optimistic phase was the first phase because of impressed with the friendliness of the Medan residents and the beauty of Medan City. The second was the cultural phase because of language and culinary confusion. The third was the recovery phase, where coastal (Tanjung Balai) students began to try developing various ways to adapt to existing conditions and overcome challenges encountered previously so that they might continue to survive in a new environment. The recovery phase contained the capability to learn a language and get used to the culinary. Finally was the adjustment phase where they enjoyed all of the differences and problems of the new culture in a new environment. Two cultural elements experienced by coastal students (Tanjung Balai) were also found by the researcher. They were value and language. Based on the findings and discussions, the conclusions were coastal (Tanjung Balai) students who studied at Universitas Negeri Medan experienced four phases of culture shock and two cultural elements. The implication of this research was to give an understanding of culture shock.

Keywords: Culture Shock, Coastal (Tanjung Balai) students, Phases, Cultural elements.

