

Accompanying Spouses / Partners

Turning Lemons into Lemonade



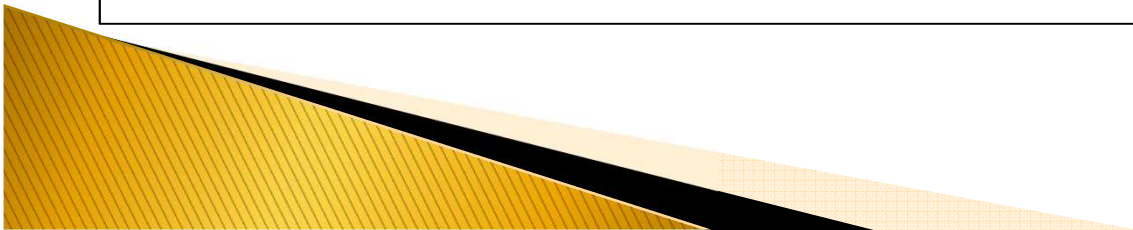
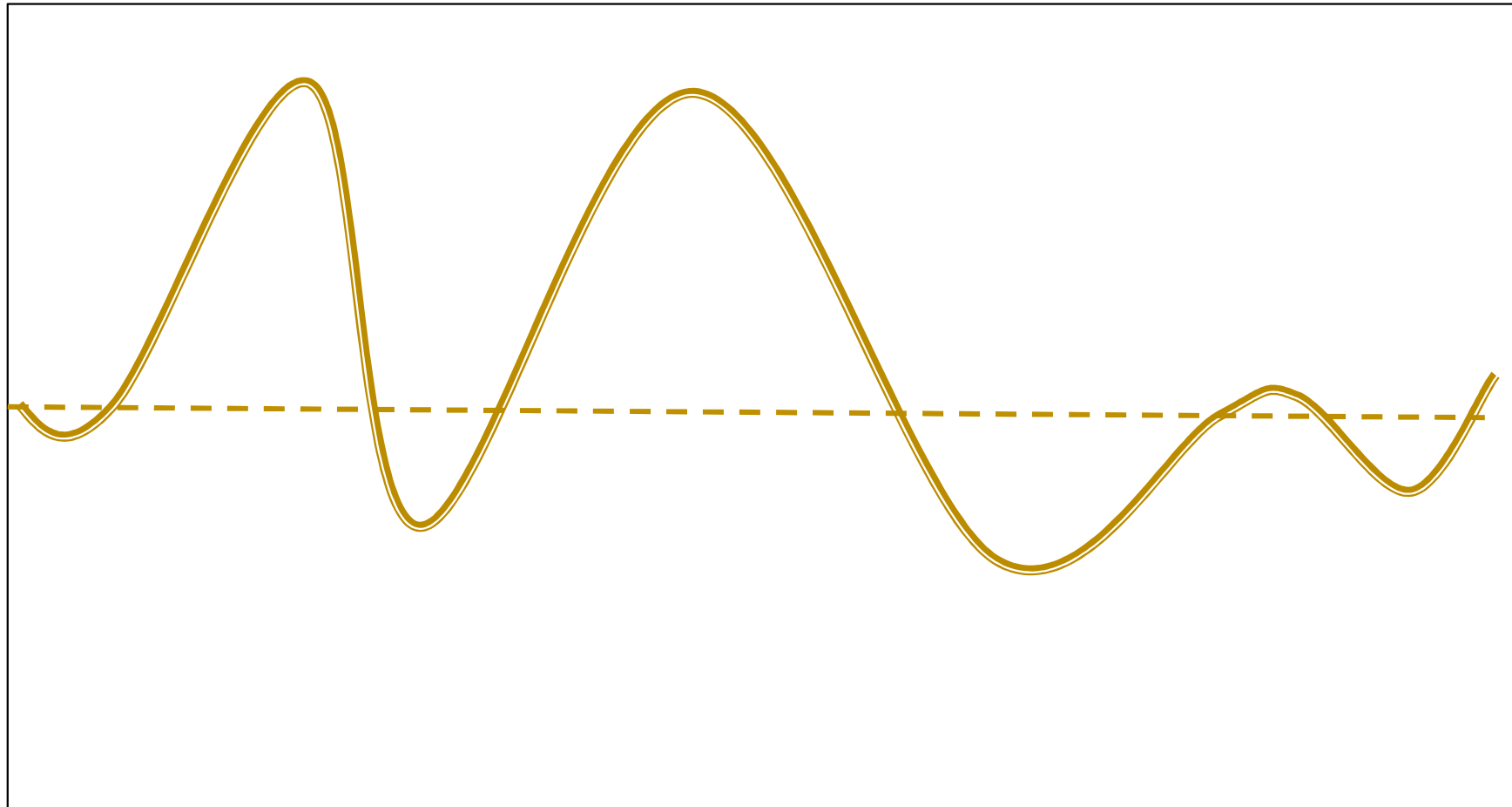
Accompanying Spouses



Who are You?

Ice Breaker: Let's look at the group

How We React to Our New Life



Major Changes

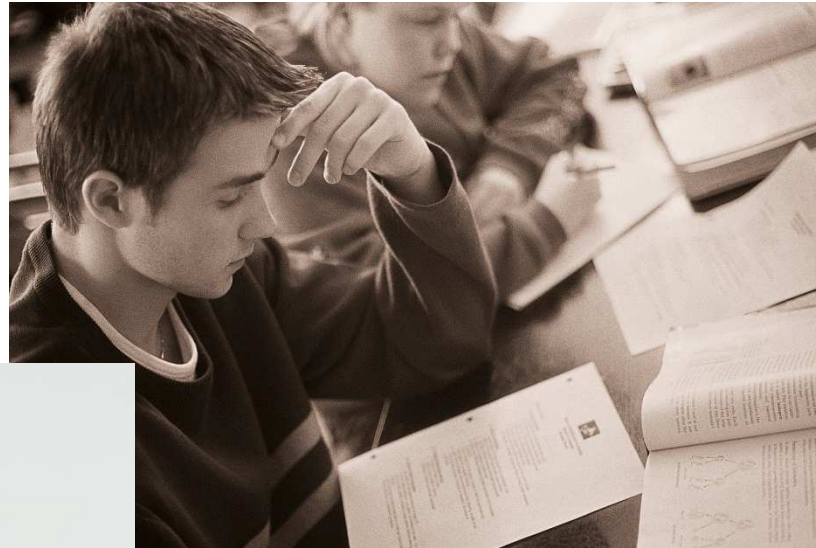
- Uprooted family
- Moved children into a new school system
- Career break a/o quit work
- Left family & friends behind
- Independence challenged

Made

- New language
- New laws
- Different customs
- Different products
- Different climate
- New attitudes
- More dependent
- Change in family dynamics
- Loss of support system
- Simple tasks, not so simple

Encountered

What Can You Do?



Think outside the box;
the possibilities abound.



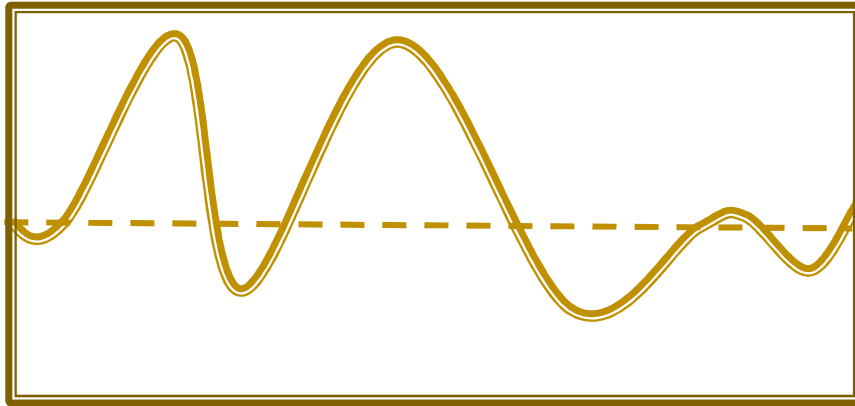
Success Stories

- S. Hall – Studied Art which had always interested her
- M. Kunst – Turned photographic hobby into more
- R. Dewitt – Capitalized on volunteer experience when she returned to the workforce
- E. Simpson – Studied and earned a degree while living abroad
- E. Kutrovska – Started her own company

- Myself – Wrote the cultural guide, Subtle Differences, Big Faux Pas

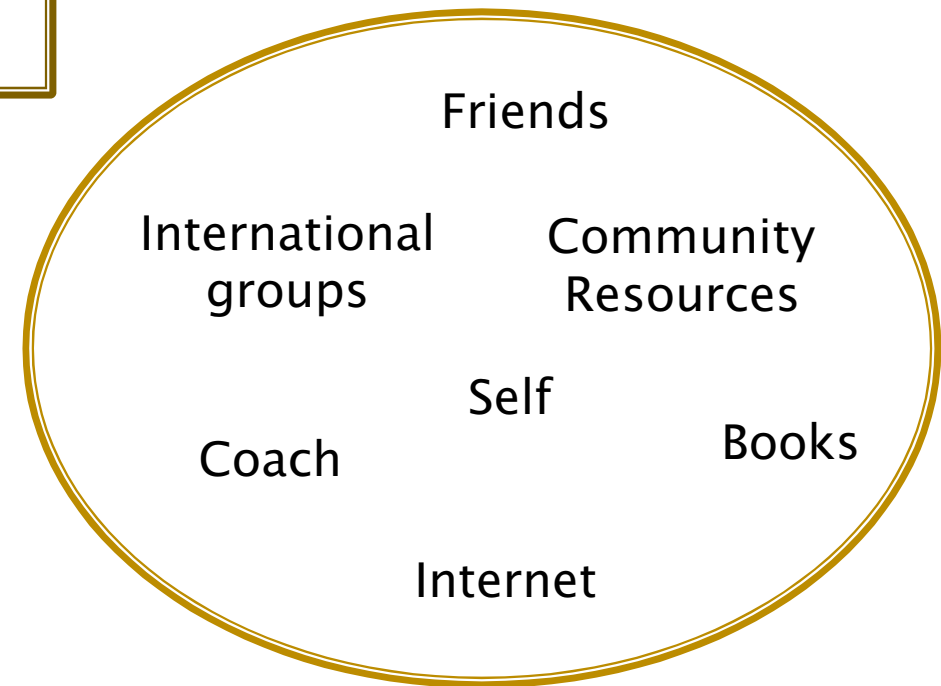


What Will Help You Succeed



Adjustment Cycle

Resources



Friends

International
groups

Community
Resources

Self

Coach

Books

Internet



What Can You Do?



- Time to make lemonade
- The sky is the limit
- See the opportunities, not the challenges
- Create something portal

Make the Most of Your Situation

Elizabeth Vennekens-Kelly

Director: Business English & Cross Cultural Consulting

www.crossculture-training.be

Author: Subtle Differences, Big Faux Pas

www.subtle-differences.com

