## STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

Herewith, I declare that the research paper I wrote as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana degree and submitted to the English Education Department, the Faculty of Education and Letters, wholly constitutes my original scientific writing.

As for the other persons' works, whose ideas are quoted in this paper, have been referred to appropriately under the prevailing legal and intellectual ethic in the world of scientific writing tradition.

However, if the originality of this paper, either partially or wholly, is later on, is proved it falls under convincing plagiarism, I would be prepared to receive any consequences in the form of any sanction such as losing my related academic degree obtained from the institution as well as other rules prevailing in Indonesia.

Serang, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Aulia Suciawati 211230001

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

#### Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

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# ABSTRACT (QUALITATIVE)

**Aulia Suciawati.** SRN. 211230001. International Students' Cultural Shock in Teaching-Learning Activities. (A Study at the State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten, Year 2024/2025)

Culture shock refers to psychological discomfort, such as confusion, anxiety, and disorientation, resulting from exposure to unfamiliar cultural environments. This study explores the culture shock experienced by international students and examines their coping strategies. Using a qualitative narrative approach, data were gathered through semi-structured interviews, observations, and reflective journals and analyzed using NVivo software. The research involved four international students—two from Thailand and two from the Philippines—who represent the total population of international students from their respective countries at the State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten. The findings highlight five key domains of culture shock: (1) affective aspects, including disorientation and lack of social support; (2) behavioural issues, such as intercultural misunderstandings; (3) cognitive challenges, including language barriers and cognitive dissonance; (4) intrapsychological factors like homesickness and limited language proficiency; and (5) academic pressure related to teaching methods, course content, and institutional policies. To manage these challenges, students applied adaptive, problem-focused, and emotion-focused coping strategies. Despite its meaningful insights, the study is limited by its small sample size and the scope of its data collection instruments.

Keywords: academic challenges, adaptation, coping strategies, culture shock, international students.

### THE ADVISER'S APPROVAL

This is to certify that the undergraduate research paper of Aulia Suciawati, SRN 211230001, entitled "International Students' Cultural Shock in Teaching-Learning Activities at the State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten," has been approved by the research paper adviser for further review by the Board of Examiners.

Serang, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Adviser I,

Dr. Hj. Anita, S.S., M.Pd. NIP. 197704102003122001 Adviser II,

As'ari, S.S., M. Si.// NIP. 19//410292000031002

Acknowledged by: The Interim Head of The English Department,

<u>Dr. Apud, M.Pd.</u> NIP 197101172003121002

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' CULTURAL SHOCK IN TEACHING-LEARNING ACTIVITIES AT STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SULTAN MAULANA HASANUDDIN BANTEN

By: Under the Supervision of:

Aulia Suciawati SRN. 211230001

Adviser I

Adviser II

<u>Dr. Hj. Anita, S.S., M.Pd.</u> NIP. 197704102003122001

Acknowledged by:

The Dean of Education and Teacher

Training Fac

\$ \frac{1}{2}

Dr. H. Nana Tempana 1412

The Interim Head of the English Department

NIP. 197/410292000031002

Dr. Apud., M. Pd

NIP. 197101172003121002

### THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS' APPROVAL

This is certify that the undergraduate research paper of Aulia Suciawati has been approved by the board of Examiners as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Sarjana in English Education.

Serang, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Board of Examiners:

Dr. Hj. Eneng Muslihah, Ph.D. Chair Person NIP. 196811171991032001 Yazid Rukmayadi, M.Pd. Secretary NIP. 198607212020121001 Examiner I Dr. Tatu Siti Rohbiah, M.Hum. NIP. 198302052011012009 Dr. Hj. Fitri Hilmiyati, M.Ed. Examiner II NIP. 197006141997032001 Adviser I Dr. Hj. Anita, S.S., M.Pd. NIP. 197704102003122001 Adviser II As'ari, S.S., M.Si. NIP. 197410292000031002

## **DEDICATION**

Researcher dedicate this paper to researcher's beloved parents, who have been with the researcher every step of the way, and the researcher also dedicate this paper to researcher herself for having fought so hard to reach this point.

## **MOTTO**

"jangan mengharapkan semuanya bisa lebih mudah, berharaplah agar dirimu bisa lebih baik" .- Jim Rohn.

"Why is it so hard when things go against you? If it is imposed by nature, accept gladly. If not, work out what your own nature requires, even if it brings you no glory." .-Marcus Aurelius

"Lokasi lahir boleh di mana saja, tapi lokasi mimpi harus di langit" .-Anies Baswedan

## A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

The researcher, Aulia Suciawati, was born in Serang on November 6<sup>th,</sup> 2003. She is the eldest daughter of two siblings, with a father named Agusji and a mother named Rosita. She completed her elementary education at SDN Walantaka 1. She graduated from the AL-Rahmah Islamic Boarding School Lebak Wangi Walantaka, in Serang City, Banten, for her secondary and high school education. She then pursued higher education in the English Language Education study program, Faculty of Education and Teacher Training, at the State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten.

As an active university student, Aulia worked as an educator at Madrasah Diniyah Takmiliyah Tegalsari and as a private tutor from her first semester until her final semester. She also receives the Cendekia Baznas Scholarship, Batch 5, at the State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten.

"Never Stop Learning Because Life Never Stops Teaching"

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