

First Assignment for ESL 152  
2 ½-3 hours (in-class assignment)

## VOCABULARY

identify	investigate	predict
adaptive	disparate	complexly
extent	adapted	

**Collocations:** body of research, multi-cultural engagement, psychological effects, integratively complex

### Part 1: Read and annotate the article excerpt below.

“The Benefits of Studying Abroad”

By **ANNIE MURPHY PAUL** April 29, 2014

New York Times

How does studying or working abroad change you? You return with a photo album full of memories and a suitcase full of souvenirs, sure. But you may also come back from your time in another country with an ability to think more complexly and creatively—and you may be professionally more successful as a result.

These are the conclusions of a growing body of research on the effects of study- and work-abroad experiences. For example: A **study** led by William Maddux, an associate professor of organizational behavior at INSEAD, found that among students enrolled in an international MBA program, their “multicultural engagement”—the extent to which they adapted to and learned about new cultures—predicted how “integratively complex” their thinking became. That is, students who adopted an open and adaptive attitude toward foreign cultures became more able to make connections among disparate ideas. The students’ multicultural engagement also predicted the number of job offers they received after the program ended.

More generally, **writes** Maddux, “People who have international experience or identify with more than one nationality are better problem solvers and display more creativity, our research suggests. What’s more, we found that people with this international experience are more likely to create new businesses and products and to be promoted.”

Angela Leung, an associate professor of psychology at Singapore Management University, is another researcher who has investigated the psychological effects of living abroad. She **reports** that people with more experiences of different cultures are better able to generate creative ideas and make unexpected links among concepts.

**Part 2: In a fully-developed essay answer the following prompt: Do you agree or disagree with the research discussed in this article that concludes that those who “identify with more than one nationality are better problem solvers?” Use examples from your own experience, readings and observations.**

**Be sure to have at least 3 compound sentences, 4 complex sentences and one compound-complex sentence.**

