



Key Vocabulary

- aristocrats
- benefit
- constitute
- context
- hereditary
- individual
- peer
- plight
- prestige
- profound
- rely
- shift
- slogan
- status
- tangible
- theme

Key Idioms and Slang

- get rich quick
- hard work
- land of opportunity
- public opinion
- rags to riches
- self-reliance
- standard of living
- the American Dream

Key Structure

Learn more about these Americans:

- Abraham Lincoln
- Amy Tan
- James Madison
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Conversation Starters

- How do you define the American Dream?
- What do you think are some typical American values?
- Do you think self-reliance is an important quality? How do you define it?
- What do you think Americans mean by the word "freedom"?
- Do you think Americans work more than people in other countries? Why or why not?

Learning Tools - Song

Song

Material Girl
Madonna

Movie

Trading Places
Starring Eddie Murphy and Dan Aykroyd

Website

The Census Bureau
<http://www.census.gov>

