

Read "The 100% American" and identify the items below per the article and fill in the blanks:

1. Bed - A place to sleep originating in the Middle East, modified in North Europe before arriving in America.
2. Cotton – Blankets
3. Silk – Fine material
4. Slippers (moccasins) - House shoes
5. Pajamas – Night Clothing
6. Soap – Cleaning Solution for hygiene
7. Shaving – Removal of facial hair
8. Jazz – Musical rhythm
9. Chair – A place to sit, usually a platform with four legs
10. Necktie – A strip of colored cloth around the neck
11. Glass – Usually a clear material one can see through and look outside of a home
12. Overshoes – Boots
13. Umbrella – Protection from the rain or sun elements
14. Coins – Money made of silver, bronze, gold
15. Plate – Something to place food for an individual to eat
16. Steel – Metal material
17. Fork – Eating utensil with three prongs
18. Spoon – Eating utensil with an oval shape for soup on other food items
19. Tobacco – Something grown in hot climates which is smoked and or chewed
20. Alphabet – Symbol or character used to form words used to communicate
21. Paper – material to write which comes from trees and is processed
22. God – Hebrew deity
23. English language – Communication spoken most often in America and several countries
24. 100% American – A collaboration of many nationalities.

Essay Questions

"The 100% American" Scholarship – Round IV 2017

Fall Semester

1. Using what you learned about the real origins of everyday items (worksheet, p.3), describe in 3-5 sentences the role global ethnic diversity plays in our lives.

I am reminded of the impact that global ethnic diversity has played in my life. My personal aspect, and belief is to treat others as you would want to be treated, as it shall return. I believe treating all with dignity and respect is important. As a single mother raising my children in the Carolina's I was very aware that progress takes time. I realize that the KKK still exists in the south, some individuals are self-centered and don't seem to care much about others. Some believe that people should only associate with those whom are like themselves. I attempt daily, to connect, learn and grow from new and old acquaintances. I attempt to look at the heart of the individual, how they treat me and show kindness and a helping hand in return. When looking at similarities, I am reminded of a friend of a

different ethnic background. We were both attempting to raise healthy, educated, well-mannered, kind children. We traveled together, with our children in tow on a vacation, in which would not be allowed in earlier years. I invited neighbors and children into my home to celebrate events of other ethnic backgrounds. Several times, I attended church and received curious looks from those sitting in the pews. Successfully, I invited an African American child into my home for the night and was approved due to an amazing school counselor who convinced grandmother it was fine, after she stated, "I have never heard of such a thing, as a black child spending the night at a white child's home." I am reminded, of a (young man and woman) whom I call brother and sister from Vietnam grew up as part of my family. They had never slept in a bed before arriving in Minnesota. They brought with their faith in god, traditions, fabulous cooking and a love for family. They had similar goals, valued citizenship in the country in which they resided. We all have things to bring to the table and take away from the table. Hopefully, the things we bring to life are of good report.

2. Given the realities from "The 100% American," tell how we should view ethnic diversity in the workplace? In life? In international relations?

Ethnic diversity in the work place is something I am familiar with, as I lived in the south working for the State of North Carolina, I realized there was something called, "The Good Ole Boys Club." They looked out for one another. Currently, I work individuals from diverse cultures born in Korea, Mexico, Africa and the USA. I have found culture values and communication can be a challenge at times. Some individuals did not respect or value women. The role of women has changed, as well as ethnic diversity it takes time as progress and changing ideals takes place. All human beings have basic needs of food, shelter, to be loved and have purpose to live. Recently, a young lady from China visited and I took her on a tour of our school and out to eat. I picked a favorite place that offers excellent food with a great atmosphere. Intending to create good memories and good lasting impressions on her first visit to a place she may never travel again. I wanted her to feel welcomed. I believe in life we should work to have good international relations, great connections which can be shared and appreciated. I have friends who produce music, films, and travel abroad sharing what they do best and loved by many. It is another opportunity to learn and grow. I recall as a young child wanting world peace, hoping one day all of humanity could hold hands and enjoy this place we call earth. I believe it was intended for good and not evil. As several of my friends can speak many languages which allows them to communicate to more individuals. I find what is spoken through the heart is vitally important, so kindness and good prevail. The smile is universal and a great form of communication.

3. If we are indebted to all cultures, creeds, countries, and colors for what we have today, why do we still have so much hatred, violence, and even wars?

Since all have good things to offer, with rich colors, languages, music, languages etc. one would think the world would be paradise. However, obviously this is not the situation. I would suggest there are many reasons. Some reasons are jealousy, greed, fear, anger and unresolved differences. I would suggest it is due to many things that could take me a life time to describe. Perhaps some is due to unacceptance, denial, changes in the world, along with the economy. When individuals are employed doing what they love and being paid enough to sustain, and live comfortably there seems to be more happiness in the world. When families spend more time enjoying life together eating, sleeping and celebrating lives accomplishments together there seems to be more happiness in the world. When there is health, balance in life, good will and individuals are doing what they love and are passionate

about the world seems to be a much happier place. Perhaps there is more hatred, violence and war in the world because the perspective of the individual, culture, or country, is not educated. Perhaps they are seeing from a different lens. Perhaps they are not valuing human beings with kindness, love and respect.

4. What were your views on global diversity before this exercise? What are they now? Are there changes? Why? Why not?

My views on global diversity before this exercise was open minded and acceptable. I view global diversity as a learning opportunity to meet someone from a different culture and view point. I also, enjoy spending time with individuals whom think much like myself. I value family, traditions and given opportunity to live out my purpose. I have traveled to other countries and been accepted. I have had friends send their children on adventures to other countries, and I have as well. I arranged for them to connect with others in the country for safe travels and a good opportunity as they made a film. As I view diversity daily, I find it can be challenging due to miscommunications, and heartwarming at times. I don't know anyone who choose the skin color they have, their sex, nor where they were born; however, they do have a choice to show love and kindness. They can choose to encourage, inspire and wish everyone they meet to have a good day. After typing the 24 items listed above, it became apparent that humanity all has contributed to the world and wants a good life.

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