

Segment 1: American Dreamers, Part 1

Responding to the Video

Activity #1

After re-viewing the videocassette segment “American Dreamers, Part 1,” complete each of the multiple-choice questions below by writing the letter of the correct answer on the line provided.

- _____ 1. America has often been compared to the Biblical (a) Gethsemane (b) Garden of Eden (c) Bethlehem (d) Jericho.
- _____ 2. Of utmost importance, according to the American dream, is the (a) land (b) economy (c) truth (d) individual.
- _____ 3. The early settler John Smith helped keep the American dream alive by (a) sending reports to Europe (b) printing travel brochures (c) making friends with American Indians (d) visiting throughout the Colonies.
- _____ 4. The Puritan dream in the Americas did *not* include (a) promoting Transcendentalism (b) creating a model city (c) escaping political persecution (d) practicing religion in peace.
- _____ 5. Major contradictions concerning the American dream include the treatment of American Indians and (a) European Romanticism in the Americas (b) the zealous proponents of democracy (c) the institution of slavery (d) the belief in history as progress.
- _____ 6. The fundamentals of the American dream are spelled out in (a) the Magna Carta (b) the Declaration of Independence (c) *The Scarlet Letter* (d) the Constitution.
- _____ 7. In *Poor Richard's Almanack*, Benjamin Franklin first expressed the American dream of rising to a higher social and economic standing through (a) freedom and optimism (b) writing and dreaming (c) hard work and education (d) tolerance and thrift.
- _____ 8. Walt Whitman speaks of the hopes and visions for fulfilling the American dream in his (a) poetry (b) novels (c) newspapers (d) almanacs.
- _____ 9. Nathaniel Hawthorne raised questions about ideas of striving for perfection and creating (a) slave colonies (b) Renaissance communities (c) democratic causes (d) utopian societies.
- _____ 10. The American writer from the Mississippi River valley who wrote honestly and symbolically about the American dream was (a) Walt Whitman (b) Mark Twain (c) Ralph Waldo Emerson (d) Robert Cook.