

From “What is an American?”

By Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur

Category	Europe/European	America/ American
Type of Government	Despotic Prince	New government
Work	Give some of what you earn to the landlord, or church	Harder you work the more you get to keep Hard work will get you somewhere
Quality of Life	Poor, jailed, hungry, didn't own land (want, hunger, war)	Taken root and flourished. Fat and happy (frolicsome); life is good
Ethnic Background	Same ethnicity	Melting pot/diverse
Religion	Forced to contribute the church and/or belong	Religion demands little Free to choose

Theme: the right to be free

Page 293, question #2

Crèvecoeur defines America and Europe very differently. First, he claims countries in Europe require belonging to a specific religion. While Americans do not have to have any faith if they so choose.

Next, . . .

Finally, . . .

(Discuss three of the five points in the chart)

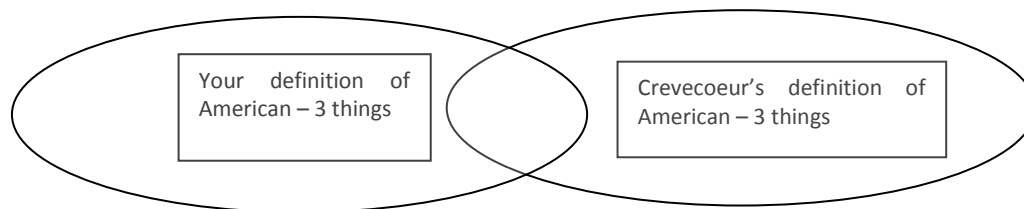
His primary reason for preferring America is . . .

Question #4

Crèvecoeur's definition of America **does/does not** still apply today.

(Discuss work, poverty, religion, quality of life and government Or any topic you wrote in the word web.) Are we too greedy? Do we appreciate what we have? Can you still just work hard and succeed?

Writing Option #1, p. 294



Crèvecoeur and I concur on several points about the definition of an American but differ on others.

My definition of an American includes: (list at least three things.)

Crèvecoeur's definition of an American incorporates (list at least three things.)

From *Poor Richard's Almanac*

APHORISM: a brief statement, usually one sentence long that expresses a general principle or truth about life.

Aphorism: a pithy observation that contains a general truth, such as, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."