Vocabs

innate	Inborn angeboren
fail	Fail in sth. You do for various reasons
weakness	Inborn, sth. In you(physical or psychological)
fault	Have a fault(of character)
mistake	Make a mistake
rejuvenate	To make or become young again sich regenerieren/verjüngen
chasm	Kluft/Lücke/Spalt
subdue	To conquer or control the actions of bändigen/überwältigen/unterwerfen
frantic	Anxious, afraid & happy rasend/wild
sinews	Means of strength and support die Kräfte/Stärke
docile	Quiet and easily controlled fügsam/nachgiebig/ruhig/willig/zahm
schism	The separation of one group into two groups Schisma/Kirchenspaltung/Spaltung
diminish	To (cause to) become or seem smaller Etw. Abschwächen/nachlassen/ schrumpfen/schwinden/etw. vermindern/geringer werden
abundant	More than enough opulent/reichlich/im Überfluss
creed	Der Glauben/Überzeugung/Credo
emend	Berichtigen/verbessern
disjoint	Zerlegen/zertrennen
seamlessly	nahtlos
embedded	Eingebettet/eingeschlossen
meticulous	Akkurat/akribisch/übergenau/minutiös
perseverance	Ausdauer/Beharrlichkeit
diligence	Eifer/Fleiß/Sorgfalt
hubris	Vanity Anmaßung/Überheblichkeit
rugged	Rau/robust/zerfurcht
resonant	Nachklingend/widerhallend
albeit	Obgleich/obschon/wenn auch
despondency	Niedergeschlagenheit/Mutlosigkeit
exhort	ermahnen

Dwell on sth.	Bei etw. verweilen/ auf etw. näher eingehen
current	Strömung/Fließen/Lauf
innuendo	Anspielung/Stichelei/Unterstellung
venomous	giftig
uncanny	unheimlich
palpable	Greifbar/konkret/offensichtlich
vexation	Ärgernis/Beunruhigung/Verdruss
to appeal	In Berufung stehen
supremacist	Rassist
civil disobedience	Ziviler Ungehorsam
suffrage	Wahlrecht
sit-in	Sitzstreik
pivotal	ausschlaggebend/entscheidend/lebenswichtig
proponent	der Befürworter
compel	Nötigen/zwingen
attenuate	Dämpfen/abmildern
concord	Übereinstimmung/Eintracht
be at odds with sth	mit etw. nicht übereinstimmen
gritty	mutig
Blank Verse	Unrhymed verse written in iambic pentameter
couplets	Two lines of verse, often rhyming
Palindromic sentence	Sentence that reads forwards the same as backwards (“fair is foul and foul is fair”)
soliloquy	Monolog/Selbstgespräch
hue	Farbton
Iambic pentameter	Five-beat rhytm; ti-TUM ti-TUM ti-TUM ti-TUM ti-TUM
relay	Jmnd. Etw ausrichten/weitermelden
scarred	narbig
impoverished	verarmt
fecund	fruchtbar

bulwark	Bollwerk
entrepreneurs	Arbeitgeber/Unternehmer
lascivious	lasziv/lüstern
diasporic	verstreut / nicht zusammenhängend
Frown upon	missbilligen
shrew	Weib
Conjure up	hervorzaubern
conjurer	Zauberer
deface	destroy entstellen
discontent	Unzufriedenheit/Missbehagen
stern	ernst/streng
smoothed	geglättet/geschliffen
nimbly	flink
strut	stolzieren/sich brüsten
wanton	mutwillig/übermütig/üppig
amble	Schlendern/trotten
curtailed	verkürzt
Dissembling	arglistig/heuchelnd/falsch
descant	Sopran
libel	jmdn. beleidigen /jmdn. verleumden
thwart so./sth.	etw. durchkreuzen /jmdm. entgegenarbeiten /etw. entgegenwirken/etw. vereiteln
heinous	abscheulich/ruchlos/schrecklich
gullible	leichtgläubig
ploy	List/Trick
chamberlain	Kämmerer
in droves	in Scharen
consolidate	festigen/vereinigen/stärken
forestall	jmnd. zuvorkommen
impediment	Hindernis
mortgage	Hypothek

convert	umwandeln
sanguine	frisch, heiter, hoffnungsvoll, lebendig, rot, wie Blut
ruddy	rot
gloomy	düster, bedrückt
slack	flau, locker, schlaff
rash	übereilt, hastig, unbesonnen
valiant	beherzt, tapfer, wacker
courteous	höflich
devious	verschlagen
volition	Choice Wille
condemned	verdammt/verurteilt
conspire	zusammentun
pervasive	überall vorhanden
disgrace	Schande
allot	verteilen
distinction	Unterschied
exonerate	entlasten
wreckage	Wrack
shrewd	scharfsinnig
quarantine	unter Quarantäne stellen
derivative	abgeleitet
curfew	Sperrstunde
swarthy	dunkel
friction	Reibung
ubiquitous	universell
deride	verspotten
skirmish	Gerangel
ostracize	ächten
retaliate	rächen
intercept	unterbrechen

culmination	Anhäufung
malignant	heimtückisch
amid	inmitten
cultured	s.o. very educated and interested in high culture
cultivated	Land planted with crops
Nomad/nomadic people	Hunter-gatherers
sovereign	Herrscher
federal	föderativ
demeaning	herabsetzend
density	Dichte
soil	Erde
squatter	Hausbesitzer; in Referenz zu Australien: Landbesitzer
detention	Arrest, Haft
deterrence	Abschreckung
immersed	vertieft
revile	beschimpfen
repugnant	abstoßend
To abide by	Etw. befolgen/einhalten/treubleiben
famine	Hungersnot
heathen	Heidnisch
tawdry	Geschmacklos/kitschig
toil	Mühe
serf	Sklave
retaliatory	vergeltend
travesty	Travestie
acolytes	Gefolgsmann
unctuous	fettig/ölig
ordained	ordiniert/bestimmt
sedition	Aufruhr
intimidate	einschüchtern
demur	Bedenken/Einwand

sycophancy	Kriecherei
colluded	konspiriert
temerity	Unbesonnenheit/Verwegenheit
compliant	folgsam/fügsam/willig
parlance	Redeweise/Ausdrucksweise
bogeyman	Buhmann/Schwarzer Mann
dissident	Regimekritiker/Andersdenkender
penname	Pseudonym
bondage	Sklaverei/Gefangenschaft/Zwang
imbecility	Beschränktheit/Schwachsinn
preliminary	vorläufig/einleitend/vorübergehend
multifarious	facettenreich
zeal	Eifer/Inbrunst
reverie	Träumerei
rectify	begradigen/korrigieren/richtigstellen
zealot	Eiferer/Fanatiker
alignment	Abgleichung/Anpassung
repudiate	ablehnen/dementieren/leugnen/zurückweisen
To induce	einleiten/erzeugen/hervorrufen/verursachen
dismay	Bestürztheit/Betroffenheit
disdainful	geringschätzig/verächtlich
odious	abscheulich/verhasst
lucid	Hell/klar/leuchtend
Imbecile	blöd/dumm
evict	ausweisen/hinauswerfen
testimony	Aussage/Bezeugung
strenuousness	Anstrengung/Mühsamkeit
to menace	bedrohen
eavesdrop	horchen/lauschen
futile	nichtig/nutzlos/sinnlos/vergeblich

equivocal	dubios/mehrdeutig/zweifelhaft
refute	anfechten/widerlegen
specious	Fadenscheinig/trügerisch
defiler	Beschmutzer
adherent	anhängend/festhaltend/haftend
sordid	elend/erbärmlich/gemein
scrutinize	hinterfragen/prüfen/untersuchen
blunt	geradeheraus/stumpf/unverblümt
coarse	grob/plump/rau
meagerness	Armseligkeit/Magerheit/Dürre
coercion	Nötigung/Zwang
predicament	Dilemma/Zwickmühle
interminable	endlos/konstant/langwierig
fallacious	abwegig/trügerisch
unobtrusive	bescheiden/dezent
meritocratic	leistungsorientiert
threshold	Grenze/Schwelle
solicitude	Besorgnis
Pagan	Heiden
equipoise	Gegengewicht
jingoism	Ruralpatriotismus
solipsism	Solipsismus (erkenntnistheoretischer Standpunkt, nur das eigene Ich ist wirklich, während die Außenwelt und andere fremde "Ichs" nur Bewusstseinsinhalte ohne eigene Existenz darstellen. Alles Sein ist im eigenen Ich, im eigenen Bewusstsein beschlossen.)
obdurate	unerbittlich/verhärtet
patronage	Unterstützung
Assent	Einverständnis/Genehmigung
prerogative	Vorrecht
sovereignty	Hoheitsgewalt
precipitate	herbeiführen/verursachen
recurrence	Rückkehr/Wiederauftreten

incremental	stufenweise
pursuant	gemäß
compulsorily	zwangsweise
to be incarcerated	eingekerkert sein
retaining	beibehaltend
circumvention	Umgehung/Vereitelung
nought	Nichts
dwell	verweilen
valiant	wacker
cunning	listig
austere	entsagend
mundane	profan
tangible	greifbar/materiell
coping	Bewältigung
astounding	verblüffend
collusion	Absprache
deadlock	Stillstand
ceasefire	Feuereinstellung

1.0 **USA**

1.1 The American Dream

- No universally accepted definition
- National ethos of the United States of America in which democratic ideals are perceived as a promise of prosperity for its people
- While historically traced to the New World mystique — the availability of land and the continuing American expansion — the ethos today indicates the ability, through participation in the resonant society and culture of the United States, to bring prosperity to oneself
- **Elements**: Belief in progress, in the general attainability of success, in manifest destiny, in challenge of respective frontiers, in liberty and equality, in multiculturalism

- First expressed by **James Truslow Adams** in 1931:
“Dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for every man, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement”
“Not a dream of motor cars and high wages merely” “dream of being able to grow to fullest development”
“Each man and each woman shall be able to attain to the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position”
“The very foundation of the A.Dream (…) is that all (…) shall be capable of wanting to share in it.”

A.Dream about:	Not about:
Social order/Equality	Distinctions into poor/rich/high/low
Idealism	Individualism
Working together	Success for selfish reasons
Personal growth/respect	Wealth/material goods
Aspiration to success success must be shared	Talent and success as an entitlement

Responsibility in the community hope for the nation and the individual Rags to riches

- rooted in the second sentence of the Declaration of Independence
- **Egalitarian**: the opportunity to make individual choices without the restrictions of class, caste, religion, race, or ethnic group

Horatio Alger, Jr.: prolific 19th-century American author; formulaic juvenile "rags to riches" novels, illustrating how boys might be able to achieve the American Dream of wealth and success through hard work, courage, determination, and concern for others; characters achieving extreme wealth and the subsequent remediation of their "old ghosts." Alger is a significant figure in the history of American cultural and social ideals. (Key Person in shaping the modern popular perception of the A.Dream)

John Davison Rockefeller was an American industrialist. Rockefeller revolutionized the petroleum industry and defined the structure of modern philanthropy. In 1870, he founded the Standard Oil Company (monopoly; corrupt business methods; controversial) and as kerosene and gasoline grew in importance, Rockefeller's wealth soared, and he became the world's richest man and first American billionaire. Rockefeller spent the last 40 years of his life in retirement. His fortune was mainly used to create the modern systematic approach of targeted philanthropy with foundations that had a major effect on medicine, education, and scientific research. Rockefeller adhered to total abstinence from alcohol and tobacco throughout his life. (Key person in attaining the A.Dream)

 Fannie Flag "Fried Green Tomatoes": "Listen, money will kill you" FGT deals with the A.Dream insofar as it rejects the trivial "get rich quick"-ideology; to the characters in FGT money does not matter in attaining the A.Dream; instead it is achieved by living a full life and by finding love. FGT serves as a contrast to all accounts that suggest the A.Dream is a concept only understood in its perverted version; if not misinterpreted, the A.Dream can, as Adam Smith predicted, lead to a life "better and richer and fuller"

Criticism:

 The Lobster and the Squid

George Carlin:"it's called the American Dream 'cause you have to be asleep to believe it."

 "Death of a Salesman" by Arthur Miller: Willy believes wholeheartedly in what he considers the promise of the American Dream—that a "well liked" and "personally attractive" man in business will indubitably and deservedly acquire the material comforts offered by modern American life. Oddly, his fixation with the superficial qualities of attractiveness and likeability is at odds with a more gritty, more rewarding understanding of the American Dream that identifies hard work without complaint as the key to success. Willy's interpretation of likeability is superficial—he childishly dislikes Bernard because he considers Bernard a nerd. Willy's blind faith in his stunted version of the American Dream

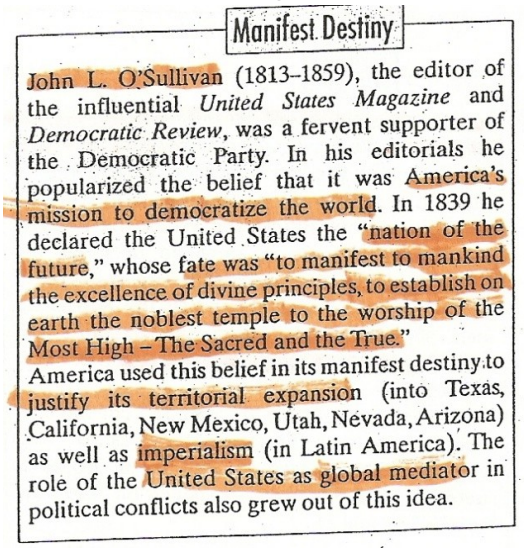
leads to his rapid psychological decline when he is unable to accept the disparity between the Dream and his own life.
Furthermore, the fact that Ben ("he entered the jungle at seventeen and came out at twenty-one a rich man") finds material success, however, not in America, but in Africa, suggests that America is not necessarily the land of opportunities and success, but the land in which wrong, misunderstood ideals of prosperity can lead to the slow, painful downfall of a man blinded by these misconceptions of society. Thus, America becomes a country rather dangerous through its tempting promise of success and fame than plentiful of opportunities.
Nevertheless, Bernard's success is a demonstration of the idea of the Dream in its purist and most optimistic form. Through his own hard work and academic success, Bernard has become a well-respected lawyer. Hence, the novel is not as much a criticism of the Dream, but of the society, which has tainted the perception of the Dream deluding Willy to believe in it.

- While characters such as Willy, Linda, and Happy believe the U.S. to be a wellspring of easy opportunity and imminent success, the 1940s America of *Death of a Salesman* is crowded, competitive and mundane. This contrast sets up an important gap between reality and characters' aspirations in the play. In the end, Willy's belief that his self-worth is determined by material success destroys him.
- Throughout *Death of a Salesman*, Willy pursues concrete evidence of his worth and success. He is entranced by the very physical, tangible results of Ben's diamond mining efforts and strives to validate his own life by claiming concrete success. Willy projects his own obsession with material achievement onto his sons, who struggle with a conflict between their intangible needs and the pressure to succeed materially.
- Pride in *Death of a Salesman* functions as a means of self-deception and as a coping mechanism. The Lomans, and particularly Willy, are extremely proud even though the basis for their pride is not at all founded in reality. Willy celebrates his own astounding success in business and the accomplishments of his sons while the Lomans struggle financially. He is too proud to accept a job from Charley, a man who he considers to be his inferior, yet accepts loans that he's unable to repay.

- replaced with a philosophy of "get rich quick"
- The result of the shift in work ethic (formerly "working hard") has actually spurred rather than lessened the people's desire to achieve the American Dream. Yet the real difference is that the Dream has become more of an entitlement than something to work towards. Many Americans no longer entertain a vision for the future that includes time, sweat, and ultimate success. Rather, they covet the shortcut to wealth. Many who are engaged in work view it more as a necessary evil until striking it rich. This idea has been perpetuated by a massive marketing effort that legitimizes the message that wealth can be obtained quickly and easily. Whether through large-prize television game shows, big-jackpot state lotteries and compensation lawsuits, Americans are told again and again that the road to the financial success of the American Dream is more a matter of luck than hard work.
http://www.americansc.org.uk/Online/American_Dream.htm
- It is impossible that everyone (or at least a majority) achieves the A.Dream. Success can only exist when there is failure. It's contrast. There can only be a winner if there is a loser. This fact qualifies the dream as unreal and as a "Dream".

- A dream is not something that is to be achieved, it is a hope in most cases does not become true, but still gives us strength to carry on. To seriously believe in it will equal in to be disappointed.
- The A.Dream is an ideal, a perfect future to strive for, but that will eventually never happen. Still, ideals give us the ability to motivate change.

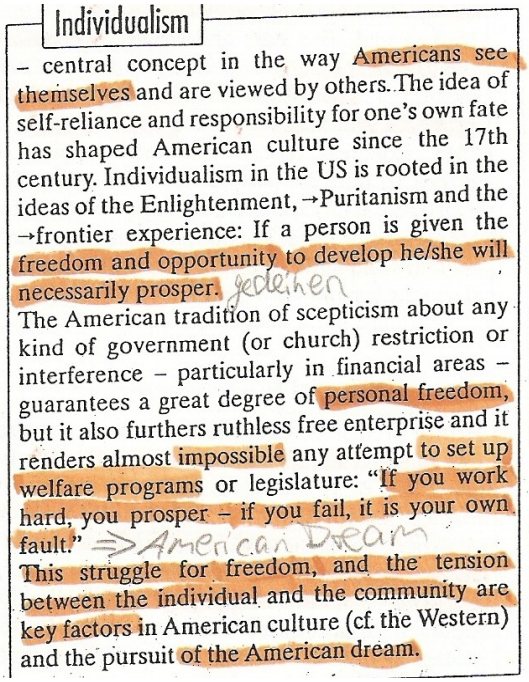
1.11 Manifest Destiny



Manifest Destiny

John L. O'Sullivan (1813–1859), the editor of the influential *United States Magazine* and *Democratic Review*, was a fervent supporter of the Democratic Party. In his editorials he popularized the belief that it was America's mission to democratize the world. In 1839 he declared the United States the "nation of the future," whose fate was "to manifest to mankind the excellence of divine principles, to establish on earth the noblest temple to the worship of the Most High – The Sacred and the True."
America used this belief in its manifest destiny to justify its territorial expansion (into Texas, California, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Arizona) as well as imperialism (in Latin America). The role of the United States as global mediator in political conflicts also grew out of this idea.

1.12 Individualism



Individualism

– central concept in the way Americans see themselves and are viewed by others. The idea of self-reliance and responsibility for one's own fate has shaped American culture since the 17th century. Individualism in the US is rooted in the ideas of the Enlightenment, →Puritanism and the →frontier experience: If a person is given the freedom and opportunity to develop he/she will necessarily prosper. jederhen
The American tradition of scepticism about any kind of government (or church) restriction or interference – particularly in financial areas – guarantees a great degree of personal freedom, but it also furthers ruthless free enterprise and it renders almost impossible any attempt to set up welfare programs or legislature: "If you work hard, you prosper – if you fail, it is your own fault." ⇒ American Dream
This struggle for freedom, and the tension between the individual and the community are key factors in American culture (cf. the Western) and the pursuit of the American dream.

Rugged individualism - individualism in social and economic affairs; belief not only in personal liberty and self-reliance but also in free competition
Individualism - a belief in the importance of the individual and the virtue of self-reliance and personal independence

The belief that all individuals, or nearly all individuals, can succeed on their own and that government help for people should be minimal. The phrase is often associated with policies of the Republican Party and was widely used by the Republican president Herbert Hoover. The phrase was later used in scorn by the Democratic presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman to refer to the disasters of Hoover's administration, during which the stock market Crash of 1929 occurred and the Great Depression began.

 Shashi Tharoor: "Are Human Rights Universal? ": - Some cultures value group rights higher than individual rights – community protects and nurtures the individual

"Egalitarianism versus the Caste System in Modern India" by Mark Tully: argues that egalitarianism and hence individualism have many faults; one the one hand they lead to alienation and loneliness amongst losers in such a system, on the other hand they weaken communities that are vital to these losers; self-respect and social security provided through such groups are hence endangered

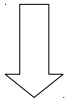
1.13 Success

Herbert Spencer was an English philosopher, prominent classical liberal political theorist, and sociological theorist of the Victorian era. Spencer developed an all-embracing conception of evolution as the progressive development of the physical world, biological organisms, the human mind, and human culture and societies. He is best known for coining the phrase "**survival of the fittest**," which he did in Principles of Biology (1864), after reading Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species. This term strongly suggests natural selection, yet Spencer extended evolution into realms of sociology and ethics.

 The Lobster and the Squid: Story of a lobster killing a squid (Boy watches the drama); Boy recognizes that the killing was inevitable and "natural": Lobsters live on squids. He applies this to the human society: Men live on men ("How is life organized?"). This allegorical story legitimizes a society based on the principle of Social Darwinism (Principle of Life=competition).

- Social Darwinism justifies economic inequalities as natural
- **The nature of success** in relation to Death of a salesman:

Intrinsic aspects	Extrinsic aspects
Satisfying human relationships	Money as fundamental for success
Committing to another person	Conforming external values, mores, expectations
Personal goals as self-development	Conforming with requirements
Derive happiness from inner qualities	Job chosen for external motives (money, position, in society…)
Develop self-respect	Celebrity ("being well-liked")
Keep your integrity	
Education	
A job that reflects your talents	

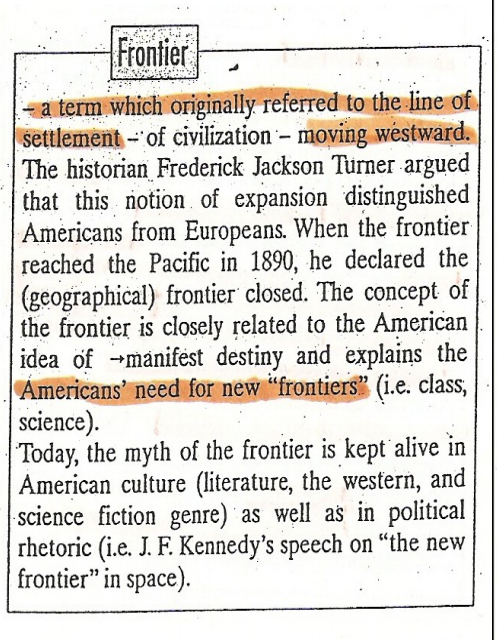


Willy's Dream=Wrong Dream

1.14 Declaration Of Independence

- Approved by the Congress on July 4, 1776 (thirteen colonies back then)
- justifying split from Britain; set up political philosophy
- "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Human Rights, A.Dream

1.15 The Frontier Heritage



Frontier

– a term which originally referred to the line of settlement – of civilization – moving westward. The historian Frederick Jackson Turner argued that this notion of expansion distinguished Americans from Europeans. When the frontier reached the Pacific in 1890, he declared the (geographical) frontier closed. The concept of the frontier is closely related to the American idea of →manifest destiny and explains the Americans' need for new "frontiers" (i.e. class, science).

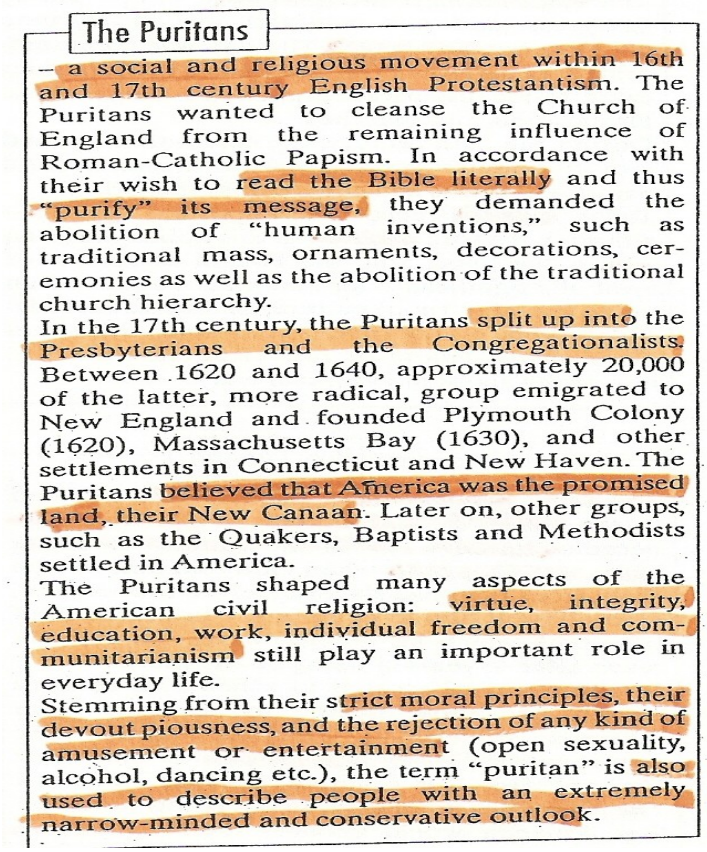
Today, the myth of the frontier is kept alive in American culture (literature, the western, and science fiction genre) as well as in political rhetoric (i.e. J. F. Kennedy's speech on "the new frontier" in space).

Handout – The Frontier – Moving Westwards

- **Definition:** The dividing line between the white settlements and the free unoccupied land. (Wilderness and Civilization)
- **Two different types:**
  - **1.** Early frontier (before 1860s)
  - Struggle of man against wilderness → pioneers
  - White men against Indians → Manifest Destiny
  - **Hero = survivor/Darwinism**
  - **2.** Last phase of western frontier (1860s – 1890)
  - Struggle of man against man → fist fights/gun fights
  - Wild West → American macho type
  - **Hero = fighter/Social Darwinism**
- **Values:** freedom, independence, equality of opportunity, initiative, superheroes, less controls, self-reliance, individualism, mobility, gun laws, self-confidence
- **Conclusion** /Legacy
- Native American culture was destroyed by white men → only small percentage of living Native Americans → still kept in reservation
  Development of physical prowess → manhood
- "He has to be tough and has to fight to win" → competitive school sports
- All the frontier values are still important today
- 2nd Amendment: The Right to Bear Arms

Sources: -The American Way by Edward N. Keerney and others
-Abtur -Wissen Englisch - Painer Jacob -Landeskunde USA
-Langenscheidt - Viewfinder Special

1.16 Puritan



The Puritans

– a social and religious movement within 16th and 17th century English Protestantism. The Puritans wanted to cleanse the Church of England from the remaining influence of Roman-Catholic Papism. In accordance with their wish to read the Bible literally and thus "purify" its message, they demanded the abolition of "human inventions," such as traditional mass, ornaments, decorations, ceremonies as well as the abolition of the traditional church hierarchy.

In the 17th century, the Puritans split up into the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists. Between 1620 and 1640, approximately 20,000 of the latter, more radical, group emigrated to New England and founded Plymouth Colony (1620), Massachusetts Bay (1630), and other settlements in Connecticut and New Haven. The Puritans believed that America was the promised land, their New Canaan. Later on, other groups, such as the Quakers, Baptists and Methodists settled in America.

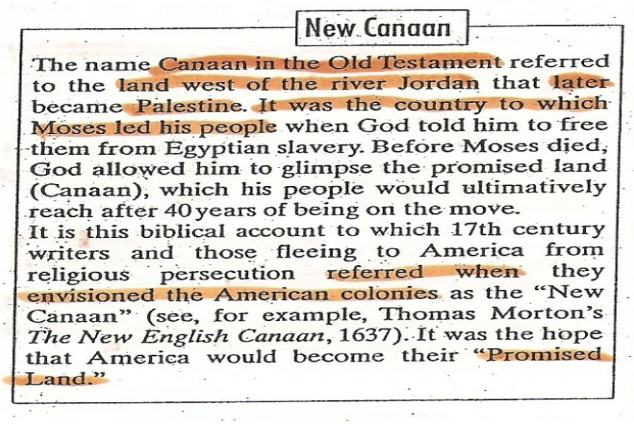
The Puritans shaped many aspects of the American civil religion: virtue, integrity, education, work, individual freedom and communitarianism still play an important role in everyday life.

Stemming from their strict moral principles, their devout piousness, and the rejection of any kind of amusement or entertainment (open sexuality, alcohol, dancing etc.), the term "puritan" is also used to describe people with an extremely narrow-minded and conservative outlook.

1.17 American Exceptionalism

- **City upon a hill** is a phrase derived from the Sermon on the Mount of Jesus given in the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew 5:14 states "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden." This phrase entered the American lexicon early in its history, with **John Winthrop**'s sermon "A Model of Christian Charity," given in 1630. Winthrop warned the **Puritan** colonists of New England who were to found the Massachusetts Bay Colony that their new community would be a "city upon a hill," watched by the world:
- "For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us. So that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken... we shall be made a story and a by-word throughout the world. We shall open the mouths of enemies to speak evil of the ways of God... We shall shame the faces of many of God's worthy servants, and cause their prayers to be turned into curses upon us til we be consumed out of the good land whither we are a-going. "

New Canaan:



New Canaan

The name Canaan in the Old Testament referred to the land west of the river Jordan that later became Palestine. It was the country to which Moses led his people when God told him to free them from Egyptian slavery. Before Moses died, God allowed him to glimpse the promised land (Canaan), which his people would ultimatively reach after 40 years of being on the move.
It is this biblical account to which 17th century writers and those fleeing to America from religious persecution referred when they envisioned the American colonies as the "New Canaan" (see, for example, Thomas Morton's *The New English Canaan*, 1637). It was the hope that America would become their "Promised Land."

1.18 Protestant work ethic

- The set of values associated by Weber with the rise of modern capitalism and industrial society. The ethic is that we fulfill our duty to God by diligence, hard work, and restrained expenditure, with the resulting accumulation of goods acting as a reassuring sign (although not a cause, since the outcome is predestined) of eventual salvation. This combination of attitudes has an elective affinity with the discipline required for industrial production.

1.2 Living Together

1.21 Immigration

American immigration (immigration to the United States of America) refers to the movement of non-residents to the United States. Immigration has been a major source of population growth and cultural change throughout much of American history. The economic, social, and political aspects of immigration have caused controversy regarding ethnicity, religion, economic benefits, job growth, settlement patterns, environmental impact, and impact on upward social mobility, levels of criminality, nationalities, political loyalties, moral values, and work habits. As of 2006, the United States accepts more legal immigrants as permanent residents than any other country in the world. In 2006, the number of immigrants totaled 37.5 million.
The alien population remaining unlawfully is estimated to be about 11 million people, down from a historic peak of 12.5 million people in 2007. According to a Pew Hispanic Center report, in 2005, 57% of illegal immigrants were from Mexico, 24% were from other Latin American countries, primarily from Central America, 9% were from Asia, 6% were from Europe, and 4% were from the rest of the world.
Reasons: War, Slavery, Persecution because of political views or religious beliefs, Poverty
Positions: Conservatives: no medical care for illegal immigrants; Opponents: citizenship after 11 years

1.22 Multiculturalism

Multiculturalism is the acceptance or promotion of multiple ethnic cultures, for practical reasons and/or for the sake of diversity and applied to the demographic make-up of a specific place, usually at the organizational level, e.g. schools, businesses, neighborhoods, cities or nations. In this context, multiculturalists advocate extending equitable status to distinct ethnic and religious groups without promoting any specific ethnic, religious, and/or cultural community values as central.
The policy of multiculturalism is often contrasted with the concepts assimilationism and social integration.

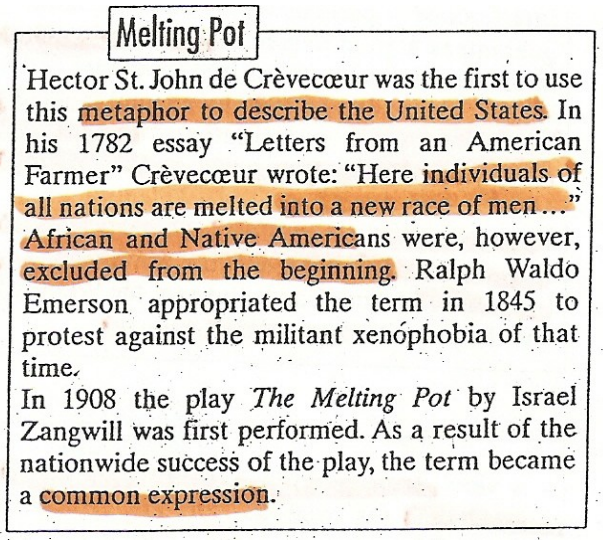
Multiculturalism

This term originally referred to Canadian and Australian minority policy in the 1970s, it did not emerge in the US until the 1980s when academics started to discuss problems in education related to the changing society.

The term became rather popular as feminists, gays and lesbians, and members of ethnic minorities challenged the traditional North American and Western Europe cultural preeminence and asked for equal rights and opportunities.

The two competing concepts in the multiculturalism debate are assimilation and pluralism – on a cultural level they are mainstream vs. minority culture and subcultures.

On the one hand the concept of multiculturalism has achieved more rights for minority groups, on the other hand it has furthered cultural fragmentation.



Melting Pot

Hector St. John de Crèvecœur was the first to use this metaphor to describe the United States. In his 1782 essay "Letters from an American Farmer" Crèvecœur wrote: "Here individuals of all nations are melted into a new race of men …" African and Native Americans were, however, excluded from the beginning. Ralph Waldo Emerson appropriated the term in 1845 to protest against the militant xenophobia of that time.

In 1908 the play *The Melting Pot* by Israel Zangwill was first performed. As a result of the nationwide success of the play, the term became a common expression.

Melting Pot: metaphor to describe a fusion of different nationalities cultural assimilation: adopting a new culture of the host country

The melting pot is a metaphor for a heterogeneous society becoming more homogeneous, the different elements "melting together" into a harmonious whole. It is particularly used to describe the assimilation of immigrants to the United States; The desirability of assimilation and the melting pot model is challenged by multiculturalism, which asserts that cultural differences within society are valuable and should be preserved, proposing the alternative metaphor of the salad bowl – different cultures mix, but remain distinct.

Salad Bowl:

The salad bowl concept suggests that the integration of the many different cultures of United States residents combine like a salad, as opposed to the more prolific notion of a cultural melting pot. In Canada this concept is more commonly known as the cultural mosaic. In the salad bowl model, various American cultures are juxtaposed — like salad ingredients — but do not merge together into a single homogeneous culture. Each culture keeps its own distinct qualities. This idea proposes a society of many individual, "pure" cultures, and the term has become more politically correct than melting pot, since the latter suggests that ethnic groups may be unable to preserve their cultures. The salad bowl has been accused of being a communitarianist model, while supporters of it speak of multiculturalism.

 Jihad vs. McWorld

1.23 Ethnic Groups

- "America is composed of a fantastic diversity of communities, large and small, according to their race, cultural background, level of income, religion, languages, politics, etc. So long as you have found your group to belong in and this group is strong enough to support you, you will find help, more or less. If you do not belong to any such group, well… And these communities often stand in opposition to each other."

The United States is a diverse country racially and ethnically. White Americans are the racial majority and are spread throughout the country; racial and ethnic minorities,

composing one fourth of the population, are concentrated in coastal and metropolitan areas. The Black American or African American population is concentrated in the South, and also spread throughout parts of the Northeast and Midwest. Black Americans make up the largest racial minority in the United States. White Americans make up 74% of the total population per the 2006 American Community Survey (ACS). Black Americans compose 13.5% of the population. Asian Americans are concentrated in the Western states; nationwide prevalence is around 4.4%. Half of the American Indian population resides in the West; there were 4.1 million in 2000, including those of partial ancestry. The Inuit population is mainly found in Alaska, and more than three quarters of the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population is found in the West, mostly in Hawaii and California. The population of those described as "two or more races" resides mostly in the West and South, where a combined 69% of all multiracial Americans reside. Americans of "Some other race" — a catchall, non-standard category almost all of whose members are reclassified as white in official documents — are nearly all Hispanic or Latino in ancestral or national origin. Hispanic and Latino Americans form 14.8% of the total population; they form a racially and ethnically diverse ancestral group, constituting the nation's largest collated ancestral minority. Hispanics and Latinos are most concentrated in the West, where they represent 27% of the population.

 “People still see things in black and white” by Ed Pilkington(The Guardian): - racism is still deep seated in America as many people in towns in which segregation is still to some degree held up (towns with a large majority of one ethnic group) would not vote for a President simply because of his skin color. – Elections show that voting behavior is heavily influenced by the ethnic identity: “Whites vote Republican, blacks Democrat.”

 Fannie Flag “Fried Green Tomatoes”: - In FGT Idgie and Ruth accept and actively support African-Americans in their community although the society of that time has been divided into black and white; FGT points out that racial segregation - even in the 30s - has not been omnipresent in past America and that by ignoring law and standards of segregation Idgie and Ruth have not only upheld their ideals and beliefs, they have also found a community of friends welcoming them as “members” of their “family”; they have found a second family in them FGT depicts a version of America and its multicultural society that is fuller than the information provided through history books suggest, they only show one side of the issue, FGT, however, throws light on a more optimistic side: bonds between ethnical groups as well as support and protection for the suppressed, as little and rare as it might have been, indeed existed

”Obama's Indian problem” by Chris McGreal (The Guardian): Indian reservations face 80% unemployment, life expectancies of 50, teenage suicides and poverty as a sense of belonging, a sense of a future, is replaced by alcoholism, the parents drinking, a lot of the children drinking, a boom in casinos on the reservations. The dislocation of Native Americans within the American society has led to a severe lack of perspective (comparison to Australian Aborigines that face the same problems)

1.24 American South

Before Civil War: North: industry; South: agriculture; a third of Southern population consisted of slaves

Civil War (1861-65): Confederate states (south; for the secession from the US, for the spread of slavery) against Union states (north; against the spread of slavery) US won; abolishment of slavery
After the Civil War: separation of racial groups (public places, interracial marriage, and residential areas) in southern states only; regulated by Jim Crow Laws ("separate but equal"); ended through Civil Rights Movement

1.25 Civil Rights Movement

Characteristics before:
* **Racial segregation**: By law, public facilities and government services such as education were divided into separate "white" and "colored" domains. Characteristically, those for colored were underfunded and of inferior quality.
* Disenfranchisement (suppressed suffrage): laws that made voter registration more inaccessible to blacks
* Exploitation: Increased economic oppression of blacks, Latinos, and Asians, denial of economic opportunities, and widespread employment discrimination.
* Violence: Individual, police, organizational, and mass racial violence against blacks (and Latinos in the Southwest and Asians in California).

Brown v. Board of Education, 1954
- Segregation policy in schools was ruled as unconstitutional (earlier case Plessy vs. Ferguson:
separate, but equal standard; now unconstitutional
Montgomery Bus Boycott
- on December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to stand up for a white person(standard back then:
racial segregation in Montgomery's public transport system; preferment of white customers)
being therefore arrested
=> This triggered the **boycott**
- city transit system lost 80% of income
- supreme court of Alabama ruled racial segregation on buses as unconstitutional
- boycott ended on 20.12.1956; one of Civil Rights Movements first victories
Little Rock Nine, 1957:
- The governor of Arkansas, Orval Faubus tried to prevent nine African-American students to attend Little Rock Central High School
Sit-Ins, 1960:
- Four African-American students sat down at the segregated lunch counter at a Woolworth's store
Freedom Rides, 1961:
- Trips by Civil Rights Activists to test the Boynton vs. Virginia decision that ended segregation between passengers in inter-state travel

Martin Luther King:
- Born in 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia
- A prominent leader of the civil Rights Movement; influenced by Mahatma Gandhi; received Nobel Peace Prize 1964
- Held the famous "I have a dream" speech

- Assassinated 1968 by James Earl Ray

Malcolm X

- born in 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska as Malcolm Little
- after criminal youth sentenced to prison; becomes member of the Nation of Islam(black supremacist organization) there
- changes surname to X; soon becomes public face of NOI (after prison)
- leaves NOI in 1964 after tensions with leader Eliah Muhammed; changes views on racism
- assassinated less than a year later by members of NOI

Philosophy of Malcolm X

Whilst member of NOI:

- Islam the true religion of blacks
- complete separation of blacks from white people
- nonviolent disobedience is useless, blacks shall defend themselves by any means
- white people devils created by an evil scientist

After membership at NOI:

- independent views; revision of many previous statements
- changed attitude towards white people positively

Differences between Black Movements:

Ghandian model	**Black radicalism**
Passive, peaceful protest	Violent protest seen as legitimate
Non-violent activism	Pressure on “non-believers”
Equality	Superiority
Baptist protestant	Islam

1.26 City and Country

 „Palin, with her meat loaf and rifles, reminds us that there are two hopelessly incompatible Americas“ by Linda Grant (The Guardian): - Small-town America (values: neighborliness, family life, a knowledge of the land) and Big-city America (seems without ethics; crime, violence, drugs, prostitution) are mutually irreconcilable and without any understanding of each other – “To small-town republicans the world is not a complicated place, because they have seen so little of it.” – “With the small-town Republican mindset in charge, the rest of America and the rest of the world is forced to live by small-town values.”

1.3 Political Life/ Political Issues

1.31 Affirmative Action

The term affirmative action refers to policies that take race, ethnicity, physical disabilities, military career, sex, or a person's parents' social class into consideration in an attempt to promote equal opportunity or increase ethnicity or other forms of diversity. The focus of such policies ranges from employment and education to public contracting and health programs. The impetus towards affirmative action is twofold: to maximize diversity in all levels of society, along with its presumed benefits, and to redress perceived disadvantages due to overt, institutional, or involuntary discrimination. Opponents argue that it promotes reverse discrimination.

 “Unreal expectations” by Zadie Smith: Fictional character Monty expresses sadness over the fact that his student believes that she deserves to study simply because “she is black and poor” and demands “reparation for history itself”, although she is unqualified and does not pay. He criticizes the “culture of victimhood”.

1.32 Capital Punishment

Capital punishment, or the death penalty, is the execution of a person by judicial process as a punishment for an offense. Crimes that can result in a death penalty are known as capital crimes or capital offences.

Capital punishment has in the past been practiced in virtually every society, although currently only 58 nations actively practice it, with 95 countries abolishing it (the remainder having not used it for 10 years or allowing it only in exceptional circumstances such as war). It is a matter of active controversy in various countries and states, and positions can vary within a single political ideology or cultural region. In the EU member states, Article 2 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union prohibits the use of capital punishment.

Capital punishment in the United States varies by jurisdiction and is applied rarely: in practice only for aggravated murder and even more rarely for felony murder or contract killing. Capital punishment existed in the colonies that predated the United States and that were later annexed to the United States under the laws of their mother countries and continued to have effect in the states and territories they became.

The methods of execution and the crimes subject to the penalty vary by jurisdiction and have varied widely throughout time. Some jurisdictions have banned it, others have suspended its use, but others are trying to expand its applicability. There were 37 executions in 2008. That is the lowest number since 1994 (largely due to lethal injection litigation). There were 52 executions in the United States in 2009, 51 by lethal injection and 1 by electric chair (Virginia). Texas executed the largest number, 24, followed by Alabama with 6; Ohio 5; Virginia, Oklahoma, and Georgia 3; Florida, South Carolina and Tennessee 2; and Missouri and Indiana 1.

- 13 states today without capital punishment
- Democrats partly in favor of C.P.; Republicans strictly for capital punishment

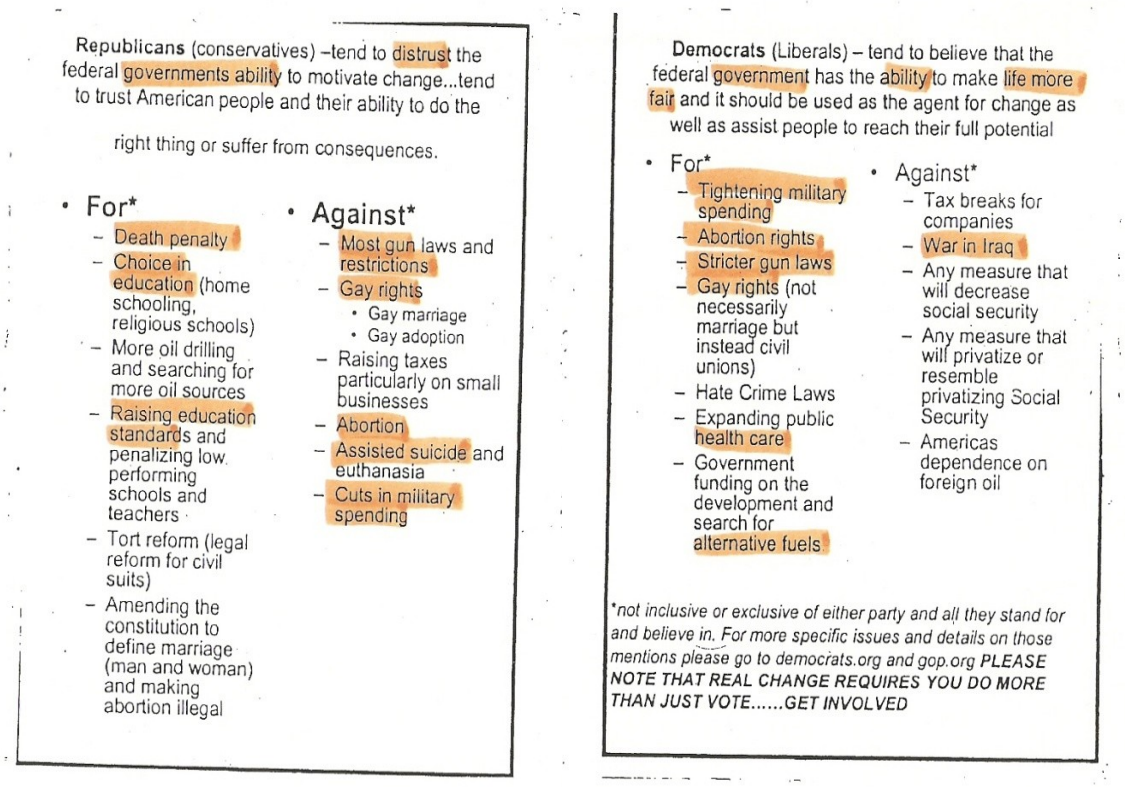
Pro	Contra
More Executions, Fewer Murders	Violation against a basic human right
Function of a Warning	Possibility of Error
	Families victimized

1.33 Gun Control

Gun politics in the United States, incorporating the political aspects of gun politics, and firearms rights, has long been among the most controversial and intractable issues in American politics. For the last several decades, this debate has been characterized by stalemate between debate on an individual's right to firearms under the Constitution and the duty of government to prevent crime and maintain order. In District of Columbia v. Heller, No. 07-290, the Supreme Court of the United States held that an individual right to bear arms is protected under the Second Amendment. Repeated polling has found that a majority of Americans believe that they have a right to own a gun while at the same time a majority also believes that there is a need for stricter enforcement of current laws. Relative to enacting new gun laws, however, the support drops to a minority; only 43 percent believe new laws would be more effective in reducing gun violence in the United States than the better enforcement of existing laws.
The law: You need to be 18 years old to buy rifles and shotguns, 21 to buy handguns and ammunition
Positions: Democrats: stricter laws and more control; Republicans: less control and lower restrictions; NRA: to own a gun is a civil right and thus this right is untouchable

 “Young guns” by Ed Pilkington (The Guardian): reports on: “With gun ownership falling, the US firearms lobby is targeting a new generation with dinky pump-action shotguns and junior shooting shows. But at what cost? “, relating this policy to tragic events of murder committed by youngsters. „But isn't it logical that the more guns there are in society, the more chance there is for tragedies to occur?”

1.34 Parties



Republicans (conservatives) –tend to distrust the federal governments ability to motivate change...tend to trust American people and their ability to do the right thing or suffer from consequences.

- For*
  - Death penalty
  - Choice in education (home schooling, religious schools)
  - More oil drilling and searching for more oil sources
  - Raising education standards and penalizing low performing schools and teachers
  - Tort reform (legal reform for civil suits)
  - Amending the constitution to define marriage (man and woman) and making abortion illegal
- Against*
  - Most gun laws and restrictions
  - Gay rights
    - Gay marriage
    - Gay adoption
  - Raising taxes particularly on small businesses
  - Abortion
  - Assisted suicide and euthanasia
  - Cuts in military spending

Democrats (Liberals) – tend to believe that the federal government has the ability to make life more fair and it should be used as the agent for change as well as assist people to reach their full potential

- For*
  - Tightening military spending
  - Abortion rights
  - Stricter gun laws
  - Gay rights (not necessarily marriage but instead civil unions)
  - Hate Crime Laws
  - Expanding public health care
  - Government funding on the development and search for alternative fuels
- Against*
  - Tax breaks for companies
  - War in Iraq
  - Any measure that will decrease social security
  - Any measure that will privatize or resemble privatizing Social Security
  - Americas dependence on foreign oil

*not inclusive or exclusive of either party and all they stand for and believe in. For more specific issues and details on those mentions please go to democrats.org and gop.org PLEASE NOTE THAT REAL CHANGE REQUIRES YOU DO MORE THAN JUST VOTE.....GET INVOLVED

1.4 The US and The World

 “Slaughterhouse 5” by Kurt Vonnegut: The American foreign policy on utilizing war as a means for expansion, intervention or sense of mission is heavily criticized as war as such is portrayed as absurd. It is fought by young inexperienced soldiers that are not fit to be soldiers, like the protagonist Billy Pilgrim, a weakling and joke of a soldier, unqualified for war, going through war safely whilst other, better soldiers die. His “armor” consisting of an azure toga, a civilian’s coat and silver boots as well as the satirical language only highlight the senselessness and inexplicability of war. War, as horrible and as tragic as it is, can only be face by satire, nothing else unveils war true character: absurdity.

1.41 Sense of Mission

See A. Exceptionalism
- US foreign policy has been guided by the feeling that the values and ideas which were created along with the new country in the 18th century, including democracy, freedom and equality, should be spread all over the world.

 George W. Bush’s “2nd Inaugural, January 20, 2005”: - calls for the “expansion of freedom in all the world” – “goal of ending tyranny in our world” – “defend (…) by force of arms” – claims America has just influence, and will not impose their “style of government on the unwilling” (self-assessment)

JFK’s Inaugural Address, Jan 20th 1961: - “we shall pay any price (…) to assure the survival and the

success of liberty.” – “Our best efforts to help them help themselves” – “never fear to negotiate” (view: America as a policeman)

 ”Egalitarianism versus the Caste System in Modern India” by Mark Tully: the imposition of western ideal such as individualism and egalitarianism upon other countries will not only bring benefits, but also endanger the social structures established in these countries; these structures may have more benefits to them than western ideals could possibly have; sense of mission does not provide these countries with new ideals, it also destroys the old ones

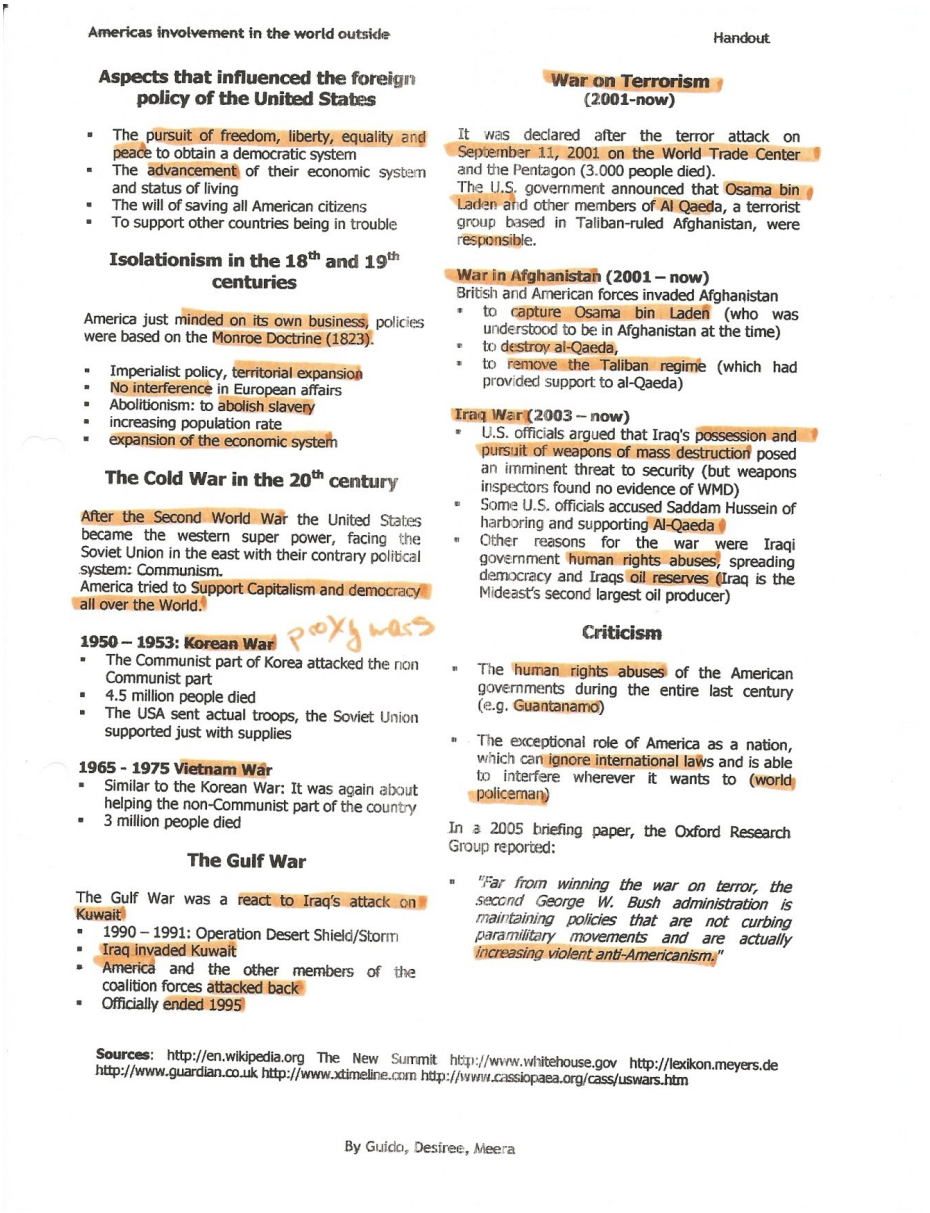
 “The White Man’s Burden” by Rudyard Kipling: claims imperialism to be a burden for the white men to “seek another’s profit”, “to serve your captives’ need”; wrongfully legitimizes imperialism as if the reason for imperialism was selfless, as if no economic goals were striven for, as if it had been only for the benefit of the colonized exemplifies imperialist position

1.42 American Expansionism

See Manifest Destiny
- After the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the US focused on its westward expansion in North America.
- In 1890, westward expansion ended and the western frontier was officially closed.
- occupied Hawaii and the Philippines in 1899(imperialism)

 Shashi Tharoor: “Are Human Rights Universal? “: HR as a way to influence/manipulate other countries

1.43 Isolationism vs. Internationalism



Americas involvement in the world outside

Handout

Aspects that influenced the foreign policy of the United States

- The pursuit of freedom, liberty, equality and peace to obtain a democratic system
- The advancement of their economic system and status of living
- The will of saving all American citizens
- To support other countries being in trouble

Isolationism in the 18th and 19th centuries

America just minded on its own business, policies were based on the Monroe Doctrine (1823).

- Imperialist policy, territorial expansion
- No interference in European affairs
- Abolitionism: to abolish slavery
- increasing population rate
- expansion of the economic system

The Cold War in the 20th century

After the Second World War the United States became the western super power, facing the Soviet Union in the east with their contrary political system: Communism.
America tried to Support Capitalism and democracy all over the World.

1950 – 1953: Korean War

- The Communist part of Korea attacked the non Communist part
- 4.5 million people died
- The USA sent actual troops, the Soviet Union supported just with supplies

1965 - 1975 Vietnam War

- Similar to the Korean War: It was again about helping the non-Communist part of the country
- 3 million people died

The Gulf War

The Gulf War was a react to Iraq's attack on Kuwait

- 1990 – 1991: Operation Desert Shield/Storm
- Iraq invaded Kuwait
- America and the other members of the coalition forces attacked back
- Officially ended 1995

War on Terrorism (2001-now)

It was declared after the terror attack on September 11, 2001 on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon (3.000 people died).
The U.S. government announced that Osama bin Laden and other members of Al Qaeda, a terrorist group based in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan, were responsible.

War in Afghanistan (2001 – now)
British and American forces invaded Afghanistan

- to capture Osama bin Laden (who was understood to be in Afghanistan at the time)
- to destroy al-Qaeda,
- to remove the Taliban regime (which had provided support to al-Qaeda)

Iraq War (2003 – now)

- U.S. officials argued that Iraq's possession and pursuit of weapons of mass destruction posed an imminent threat to security (but weapons inspectors found no evidence of WMD)
- Some U.S. officials accused Saddam Hussein of harboring and supporting Al-Qaeda
- Other reasons for the war were Iraqi government human rights abuses, spreading democracy and Iraqs oil reserves (Iraq is the Mideast's second largest oil producer)

Criticism

- The human rights abuses of the American governments during the entire last century (e.g. Guantanamo)
- The exceptional role of America as a nation, which can ignore international laws and is able to interfere wherever it wants to (world policeman)

In a 2005 briefing paper, the Oxford Research Group reported:

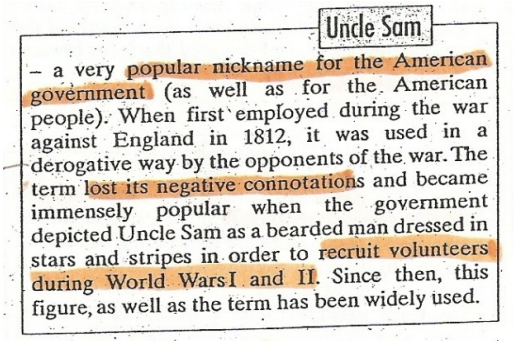
- *"Far from winning the war on terror, the second George W. Bush administration is maintaining policies that are not curbing paramilitary movements and are actually increasing violent anti-Americanism."*

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org The New Summit http://www.whitehouse.gov http://lexikon.meyers.de http://www.guardian.co.uk http://www.xtimeline.com http://www.cassiopaea.org/cass/uswars.htm

By Guido, Desiree, Meera

- The Monroe Doctrine (1823) proclaimed that European powers should no longer interfere with American affairs and that the US would only be involved in other nation's affairs if America's rights were disturbed.
- Isolationism in 1920s/30s
- Truman Doctrine= stressing America's role as the world's policeman, active international interest, military intervention

1.44 Uncle Sam



Uncle Sam

– a very popular nickname for the American government (as well as for the American people). When first employed during the war against England in 1812, it was used in a derogative way by the opponents of the war. The term lost its negative connotations and became immensely popular when the government depicted Uncle Sam as a bearded man dressed in stars and stripes in order to recruit volunteers during World Wars I and II. Since then, this figure, as well as the term has been widely used.

2.0 **Them and Us**

2.1 The One-Track Mind

2.11 Prejudice, Intolerance and Ideologies

Ku Klux Klan: Ku Klux Klan (KKK) is the name of several past and present far right hate group organizations in the United States whose purpose was to protect the rights of and further the interests of white Americans by violence and intimidation. The first such organizations originated in the Southern states and eventually grew to national scope. They developed iconic white costumes consisting of robes, masks, and conical hats. The KKK has a record of using terrorism, violence, and lynching to murder and oppress African Americans, Jews and other minorities and to intimidate and oppose Roman Catholics and labor unions. The first Klan was founded in 1865 by Tennessee veterans of the Confederate Army. Klan groups spread throughout the South. The Klan's purpose was to restore white supremacy in the aftermath of the American Civil War. In 1915, the second Klan was founded. It grew rapidly in a period of postwar social tensions, where industrialization in the North attracted numerous waves of immigrants from southern and Eastern Europe and the Great Migration of Southern blacks and whites. In reaction, the second KKK preached racism, anti-Catholicism, anti-Communism, nativism, and anti-Semitism.

 Malcolm X

 Jihad vs. McWorld

2.2 Values

2.21 Human and Civil Rights

Human rights are "basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled". The doctrine of human rights aims to identify the necessary positive and negative prerequisites for a "universal" minimal standard of justice, tolerance and human dignity that can be considered the public moral norms owed by and to individuals by the mere virtue of their humanity. Such prerequisites can exist as shared norms of actual human moralities, as justified moral norms or moral rights supported by strong reasons, as legal rights at a national level, or as a legal right within international law. Human rights advocates seek the

strong protection of human rights through their effective realization in each of these ways. The claim of human rights is therefore that they are universal, in that they are possessed by all by virtue of the fact that they are human and independent in that their existence as moral standards of justification and criticism is independent whether or not they are recognized by a particular national or international legal system or government.
The general idea of human rights has widespread acceptance, and it has been argued that the doctrine of human rights has become the dominant moral doctrine for regulating and evaluating the moral status of the contemporary geo-political order. Indeed, the Charter of the United Nations which has been signed by virtually all sovereign states recognizes the existence of human rights and calls for their promotion and respect. However, debate and disagreement over which rights are human rights, and about the precise nature, content, justification and appropriate legal status of those rights continues. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights has acted as the predominant modern codification of commonly accepted human rights principles and of many international documents, treaties and instruments that have expanded on its principles and act as a collective expression of widespread conceptions of human rights by the international community. Examples of rights and freedoms which have come to be commonly thought of as human rights include civil and political rights, such as the right to life and liberty, freedom of expression, and equality before the law; and economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to participate in culture, the right to be treated with respect and dignity, the right to food, the right to work, and the right to education.

“ All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. ”

—Article 1 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

 Shashi Tharoor: “Are Human Rights Universal? “: - can HR apply to all parts of the world? - Duties and group rights take precedence over the rights of an individual in some countries. – HR impossible to be realized everywhere. - HR=western try for intervention?

- rights such as free will have to have limits when free will imposes upon another person’s human rights

- **Human dignity**: The perhaps most generally accepted philosophical definition comes from Immanuel Kant. According to him, every autonomous individual has human dignity. Being autonomous means having the ability to – independently from education or any other qualification – recognize and act according to moral law. Thus, human dignity is having respect for others and acknowledgement of the equality of all humans as, under the terms of Kant, all humans are “ends in themselves” and not just “means to an end”. So if a human is made to a “mean to an end” – for example through oppression – human dignity is offended.

Although mostly agreeing with **Kant**, I would go as far to say that gaining human dignity is achieved through Kant’s being autonomous and acting according to moral law as well as being human; however, not by its biological means. Losing human dignity, on the other hand, is a different matter in my opinion. I believe that others may try to infringe upon your right to human dignity, but you will not lose your dignity as long as you do not let them crush your dignity.

2.22 Traditions and Interests

 Shashi Tharoor: "Are Human Rights Universal? ": - traditions and beliefs are precedent over rights in some societies – HR irreconcilable with tradition, religion, culture?

- If there was a wild, ferocious tribe with cannibalistic tendencies on earth, could you call killing and eating other humans a right, just because it is part of the culture and tradition of the cannibal?

2.3 Religion

Religion in America

Basic Facts: - American Constitution guarantees religious freedom --> many different religions
- America was one of the first countries that seperated state and religion
- in public schools there's no religion taught and official confessions like 'organised prayers' are forbidden
- since 1864 on every bill and every coin: the slogan 'In God We Trust'

Religions: - 78,4 % of the American society consider themselves Christians
--> 51,3 % Protestant, 23,9 % Catholic and others
- difference between 'mainline' and 'evangelical' Christians:
- evangelical : merely christian, motivated by/ founded upon their belief, conservative
- mainline: open to modernity, 'Jesus=a way, not the way'
- because of the religious freedom sects and cults like The Church Of Scientology or The Church Of Satan are officially accepted as religions

Religion in politics:
- long tradition of separating church from state
- great political and social movements
> from abolition to women's suffrage to civil rights to today's struggles over abortion and gay marriage

- evangelical Christians tend to support the Republican Party whereas more secular voters support the Democratic Party

- every president, with the exception of John.F.Kennedy (a Roman catholic) , was in a family with affiliations with Protestant Christianity.
- 69% of Americans agree that it is important for a president to have strong religious beliefs.

- "it gives cohesion, creates communities and has created a long tradition of philanthropy and a vast network of charity, it offers a kind of "moral backbone" and purpose"

2.31 Religious Fundamentalism

The Christian right, also known as the Religious Right and the Evangelical Bloc, is a term used predominantly in the United States of America to describe a spectrum of right-wing Christian political and social movements and organizations characterized by their strong support of conservative social and political values. The politically active social movement of the Christian right includes individuals from a wide variety of conservative theological beliefs, ranging from traditional movements within Pentecostalism, fundamentalist

Christianity and Mormonism to the adherents of Lutheranism, Calvinism and Catholicism that are theologically conservative.
The Christian right is contrasted with the Christian left, a spectrum of left-wing Christian political and social movements which largely embrace policies of social justice.
- Creationism, anti-abortion lobbying, opposition to gay rights and gay marriage right

 “How these gibbering numbskulls came to dominate Washington” by George Monbiot (The Guardian): - “Ignorant politicians are elected by ignorant people.” – “US education (…) is notorious for its failures.” – “religion – in particular fundamentalist religion – makes you stupid.” – Hence, fundamentalism is the reason for failures in education and politics

2.32 Jihad vs. McWorld

Two political futures: equal strength in opposite directions, neither democratic
Jihad

- Retribalisation by war; Lebanonisation of states; culture against culture; tribe against tribe
- Destruction of interdependence, artificial social cooperation and civic mutuality
- Result of parochial hatred and narrowly conceived faiths
- Recreation of borders: people without countries seeking smaller worlds
- War as a means of identity, expression of community
- Reason for war: ethnic, racial, tribal, religious, anti-Semitism and other antagonisms
- Multiculturalism can lead to cultural breakup into tribal fragments
- Grounded in exclusion, obedience to a hierarchy, fanaticism in belief

McWorld

- Economic and ecological forces that lead to integration and uniformity
- Result of technology, ecology, communications and commerce, universalizing markets
- Destruction of borders, nationalism, independence, community, identity
- Four imperatives:
- 1. Market imperative: national markets replaced by transnational markets(expansion) multinational entities, corporations arise
- Peace, prosperity, unity and Stability will follow(markets are enemies of war)
- Common language, common currency, common behaviors; religion, culture and nationality become marginal
- 2. Resource imperative: economic autonomy is not achievable as depletion of resources creates dependency: “Every nation, it turns out, needs something another nation has” eradication of borders
- 3. Information-technology imperative: science must be universal, based on open communication and to achieve new goals, it needs globalization
- Information flow has top priority; hence English=lingua franca; “the whole world speaks logarithms and binary mathematics”(globalization of information codes)
- “secrecy and science are enemies”open societies, but =/= democratic society
- Values, beliefs, a way of life is conveyed through American brands all over the world(“McWorld”; Disney, Hollywood)

- 4. ecological imperative: globalization=destruction of ecological system; inequality widens as developing countries are not allowed to globalize because of awareness of ecology
- commercialized, homogenized, depoliticized, trans ideological, -cultural, -national, bureaucratic
-

3.0 **United Kingdom**

3.1 Social Structure, Social Change

3.11 Welfare State vs. Individual Responsibility

- **Nanny state** is a term that refers to state protectionism, economic interventionism, or regulatory policies (of economic, social or other nature), and the perception that these policies are becoming institutionalized as common practice. Opponents of such policies use the term in their advocacy against what they consider as uninvited and damaging state meddling. It has been referred to as a form of political correctness. Welfare State

-Thatcher: "And, you know, there is **no such thing as society**. There are individual men and women, and there are families. And no government can do anything except through people, and people must look to themselves first." individual responsibility

 "Das Verschwinden des Respekts" by Sabine Rennefanz: argues that western societies have become increasingly inhuman and disrespectful; Although these societies claim that class, race, culture and religion are unimportant for success, Rennefanz calls them remorseless with a thin social net and low payments forcing many to have multiple jobs for financial survival.

3.12 New Britain??????????????????????????

3.13 Trade Unions

- **Thatcher** was committed to **reducing the power of the trades unions**, but adopted a strategy of incremental change rather than a single Act. Several unions launched strikes in response, but these actions eventually collapsed. Gradually, Thatcher's reforms reduced the power and influence of the unions. The changes were chiefly focused upon preventing the recurrence of the large-scale industrial actions of the 1970s, but were also intended to ensure that the consequences for the participants would be severe if any future action was taken. The reforms were also aimed, Thatcher claimed, to democratize the unions, and return power to the members.

- Before the reforms the National Coal Board received the largest amount of public subsidies going to any nationalized industry: by 1984 the annual cost to taxpayers of uneconomic pits had reached £1 billion. The year-long confrontation over **strikes** carried out from April 1984 by the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), in opposition to proposals to close a large number of unprofitable mines, proved decisive. The government had made

preparations to counter a strike by the NUM long in advance by building up coal stocks, ensuring that cuts in the electricity supply—the legacy of the industrial disputes of 1972—would not be repeated.
Police tactics during the strikes came under criticism from civil libertarians, but the images of crowds of militant miners attempting to prevent other miners from working proved a shock even to some supporters of the strikes. The mounting desperation and poverty of the striking families led to divisions within the regional NUM branches, and a breakaway union, the Union of Democratic Mineworkers (UDM), was soon formed. A group of workers, resigned to the impending failure of the actions and worn down by months of protests, began to defy the Union's rulings, starting splinter groups and advising workers that returning to work was the only viable option.
The miners' strike lasted a full year before the NUM leadership conceded without a deal. Conservative governments proceeded to close all but 15 of the country's pits, with the remaining 15 being sold off and privatized in 1994. Private companies have since then acquired licenses to open new pits and open-cast sites, with the majority of the original mines destroyed and the land redeveloped.
The strike became a symbolic struggle, since the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) was one of the strongest in the country, viewed by many, including Conservatives in power, as having brought down the Heath government in its 1974 strike. The strike ended with the miners' defeat and the Thatcher government able to consolidate its free market program. The political power of the NUM was broken permanently.

3.14 Ethnic Minorities

- Immigrants try to integrate into British society while trying to preserve aspects of their own identity (language, religion, culture)

 “East is East”: The film juxtaposes the two clashing world views/attitudes of 1st generation immigrants and 2nd generation immigrants within a Pakistani family. Whilst the father, living by strict rules and traditions, keeps his former ideals, arranges unsuccessfully a wedding for his son and wants to move to Bradford (mainly inhabited by Pakistani) to get around changing, his kids, assimilating to society and modernity, abandon their former religion (this creates large, unapproximatable differences between them), escape the wedding, misbehave and are unhappy with traditions. The mother reconciles, showing that a way in between both ways of living needs to be found.

 “Bringing migrants into the light” by Rahila Gupta: “While refugees are technically those whose applications for asylum have been accepted, there are a range of migrants who live in various shades of legality – all of whom should be welcomed because their presence here is usually driven by the west's impoverishment of their countries.” - Suggests that amnesty should be granted: 1. because countries such as Britain are often responsible for the misery that gives refugees reason to emigrate from their home; 2. to enhance the living standard of refugees

3.15 Multiculturalism

Beginning during the postwar immigration boom, United Kingdom has gradually developed a robust policy of multiculturalism. The rapidity of ethnic transition in the United Kingdom has caused much discussion about the policies that have developed under the rubric of

multiculturalism. Critics believe policies that stress integration between groups are more appropriate. They point to the differing successes and relative failures of various groups in the United Kingdom to integrate with one another and British society.
In 2007, the majority of people in many non-white ethnic groups living in Great Britain described their national identity as British, English, Scottish or Welsh. This included 87% of people with mixed heritage, 85% of Black Caribbeans, and eight in ten Pakistanis and Bangladeshis. Non-whites were more likely to describe themselves as British than whites. Only one-third of people from the White British group described themselves as British; with many respondents preferring to call themselves English, Welsh or Scottish.
In 2005 the Commission for Racial Equality published a report entitled "Citizenship and Belonging: What is **Britishness**?", to examine the way in which British people of different ethnic backgrounds thought about Britishness. The Commission reported that:
"As White people involved in the study were asked to talk about Britishness, many immediately and spontaneously changed the topic of discussion slightly talking instead about a perceived decline in Britishness. This happened in all focus groups with White people. They attributed the decline to four main causes: the arrival of large numbers of migrants; the 'unfair' claims made by people from ethnic minorities on the welfare state; the rise in moral pluralism; and the failure to manage ethnic minority groups properly, due to what participants called political correctness."
And that: "Most White participants were distressed by this perceived decline in Britishness. They felt victimized and frustrated and many anticipated that social unrest would become inevitable."

- **"The Rivers of Blood Speech" (1968) by Enoch Powell**: notorious, infamous speech, in which he claims that the annual inflow of immigrants will lead to the downfall of Britain ("I seem to see the River Tiber foaming with much blood") This condemned, racist speech exemplifies opposition against a multicultural Britain

- **"Bradford reflects on many shades of Englishness" by Sarfraz Manzoor**: suggests that being English not anymore simply means to live in England, but to behave and feel and respond in ways that are quintessentially English. Thereby, being English (for immigrants) means to accept that you have a history in England, not another country; it means to accept England as your home (which hence means to (partially) accommodate to it)

3.16 Class

- Reputation as a **class-ridden, elitist society**
- Britain never experienced a revolutionary assault on traditional notions of hierarchy. Although society has been transformed, the way we look at it has not
- The perception of class alters your expectations on and outlook of life
- **Private schools** and state schools differ heavily in educational achievement; as a cause they are a determining factor of your future career and wealth

- **Division** of classes:

Upper class	Aristocracy and high clergy
Middle class	Business and trade people, artisan workmen ("Handwerksmeister"), all

	professional people a certain level of education
Working class 	Skilled + semi-skilled labor
Under class	unskilled

- Working class (laborer/worker) 1970-80: steel, coal, mining, car manufacturing, textiles, shipbuilding, construction work, porcelain, pottery…… fishing, farming

 “Riven by class and no social mobility – Britain in 2007” by Julian Glover (The Guardian): points out that polls show that 89% of the society still believe to be judged by class; states that social change is static and slow and that many class attitudes have survived the economic change

 Educating Rita: “We were talking about class, and why Rita's social group (husband, friends, family...) so dislike her "breaking away". In our last lesson I tried to guide you away from the simple answer of "they are jealous" to looking at this whole class issue as a "them and us" issue, in which the reaction of the working-class group becomes understandable as a defense reaction rather than be seen as a "nastiness" reaction. I tried to guide you to see that individualism is a privileged route, open only to the strongest, the educated, the more well-connected, highly-born, etc. Classically, it is the mode of life of those who are not on the lowest rungs of society. This is why "meritocracy" does not help those at the bottom pick themselves up. That is why the American belief in total self-reliance is such a dangerous ideology (see Miller’s play), and why it is so close to "social Darwinism" which simply sees those at the bottom as failures.” “Rita, stronger and braver and more reflective, has begun to understand and wants to break away. The others naturally see this as a threat on their community.”
Quote: “But studyin’ was just for the wimps, wasn’t it? See, if I’d started takin’ school seriously I would have had to become different from me mates, an’ that was not allowed.” “By whom?” “By your mates, by your family, by everyone. So y’ never admit that school could be anythin’ other than useless.”

3.2 Political Life, Issues and Institutions

3.21 Democracy and Monarchy

The politics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland takes place in the framework of a **constitutional monarchy**, in which the Monarch is head of state and the **Prime Minister** of the United Kingdom is the head of government. Executive power is exercised by the UK government, the devolved governments of Scotland and Wales, and the Executive of Northern Ireland. Legislative power is vested in both the government and the two chambers of **Parliament**, the House of Commons and the House of Lords (no longer hereditary), as well as in the Scottish parliament and Welsh and Northern Ireland assemblies. The judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislature, though

several senior judges are still members of the House of Lords. In October 2009 the judicial role of the House of Lords was removed and given to a new Supreme Court under the Constitutional Reform Act 2005.
The UK is a multi-party system and since the 1920s, the two largest political parties have been the **Conservative Party and the Labor Party**. Though coalition and minority governments have been an occasional feature of parliamentary politics, the first-past-the-post electoral system used for general elections tends to maintain the dominance of these two parties, though each has in the past century relied upon a third party to deliver a working majority in Parliament.
The Liberal Democrats, a party formed by the merger of the former Liberal Party and Social Democratic Party in 1988, is the third largest party in the British parliament. It seeks a reform of the electoral system to address the disproportionate dominance of the two main parties that results from the current system.

The head of state, theoretical and nominal source of executive, judicial and legislative power in the UK is the British monarch, currently **Queen Elizabeth II**. However, sovereignty in the UK no longer rests with the monarch, since the English Bill of Rights in 1689, which established the principle of Parliamentary sovereignty. Nonetheless, the monarch is still known as the sovereign.
The British sovereign possesses many powers, including the right to choose any British citizen to be her Prime Minister and the right to call and dissolve Parliament whenever she wishes. However, in accordance with the current uncodified constitution, the Prime Minister is the leader of the largest party in the House of Commons, and Parliament is dissolved at the time suggested by the PM. For a bill to become law the monarch has to grant Royal Assent. Queen Anne was the last monarch who withheld Assent: on 11 March 1708 to a bill "for the settling of Militia in Scotland". Other royal powers called royal prerogative, such as patronage to appoint ministers and the ability to declare war, are exercised by the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, with the formal consent of the Queen. Historically, the British monarch directly exercised all executive authority in the UK government. However, in the early 18th century, the role of Prime Minister (literally meaning the chief or senior minister in the Cabinet) emerged as a de facto executive authority, by directly implementing executive powers and collectively consulting with other members of his/her Cabinet.
Today the sovereign has an essentially ceremonial role restricted in exercise of power by convention and public opinion. However the monarch does continue to exercise three essential rights: the right to be consulted, the right to advice and the right to warn. As a consequence of these ideals, Prime Ministers hold weekly confidential meetings with the monarch in which the sovereign holds the right to express her opinions.
In formal terms, the Crown in Parliament is sovereign even though in practical terms the political head of the UK is the Prime Minister (Gordon Brown since 27 June 2007). However, the real powers of position of the monarch in the British Constitution should not be downplayed. The monarch does indeed retain some power, but it has to be used with discretion. She fulfills the necessary constitutional role as head of state, and with the absence of a distinct separation of powers as in the American model and a strong second chamber, acts as a final check on executive power. If a time came to pass, for instance, when a law threatened the freedom or security of her subjects and citizens, the Queen could decline royal assent, free as she is from the eddies of party politics. Furthermore,

armed removal of her by Parliament or Government would be difficult, as the monarch remains commander-in-chief of the armed forces, who swear an oath of allegiance to her.

3.22 Northern Ireland

The Troubles was a period of ethno-political conflict in Northern Ireland which spilled over at various times into England, the Republic of Ireland, and Continental Europe. The duration of the Troubles is conventionally dated from the late 1960s and considered by many to have ended with the Belfast "Good Friday" Agreement of 1998. Violence nonetheless continues on a sporadic basis.

The principal issues at stake in the Troubles were the constitutional status of Northern Ireland and the relationship between the mainly-Protestant Unionist and mainly-Catholic Nationalist communities in Northern Ireland. The Troubles had both political and military (or paramilitary) dimensions. Its participants included politicians and political activists on both sides, republican and loyalist paramilitaries, and the security forces of the United Kingdom and of the Republic of Ireland.

"The Troubles" refers to approximately three decades of violence between elements of Northern Ireland's nationalist community (principally Roman Catholic) and unionist community (principally Protestant). Use of the term "The Troubles" has been raised at NI Assembly level, as some people considered this period of conflict a war. The conflict was the result of discrimination against the Catholic/nationalist minority by the Protestant/unionist majority and the question of Northern Ireland's status within the United Kingdom. The violence was characterized by the armed campaigns of paramilitary groups, including those of the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) campaign of 1969–1997, intended to end British rule in Northern Ireland and to reunite Ireland politically and thus creating a new "all-Ireland" Irish Republic; and of the Ulster Volunteer Force, formed in 1966 in response to the perceived erosion of both the British character and unionist domination of Northern Ireland. The state security forces—the British Army and the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC)—were also involved in the violence.

The British Government's view was that its forces were neutral in the conflict, trying to uphold law and order in Northern Ireland and the right of the people of Northern Ireland to democratic self-determination. Irish republicans, however, regarded the state forces as forces of occupation and "combatants" in the conflict, noting collusion between the state forces and the loyalist paramilitaries. The "Ballast" investigation by the Police Ombudsman has confirmed that British forces, and in particular the RUC, did, on several occasions, collude with loyalist paramilitaries, were involved in murder, and did obstruct the course of justice when such claims had previously been investigated. The extent of collusion is still hotly disputed. Unionists claim that reports of collusion were either false or highly exaggerated and that there were also instances of collusion between the authorities of the Republic of Ireland and Republican paramilitaries.

Alongside the violence, there was a political deadlock between the major political parties in Northern Ireland, including those who condemned violence, over the future status of Northern Ireland and the form of government there should be within Northern Ireland.

The Troubles were brought to an uneasy end by a peace process. It included the declaration of ceasefires by most paramilitary organizations, the complete decommissioning of the IRA's weapons, the reform of the police, and the corresponding withdrawal of army troops from the streets and sensitive border areas, as agreed by the signatories to the Belfast Agreement (commonly known as the "Good Friday Agreement"). The agreement reiterated the long-held British position, which successive Irish governments had not fully acknowledged, that Northern Ireland would remain within the United Kingdom until a majority votes otherwise.

On the other hand, the British Government recognized for the first time the principle that the people of the island of Ireland as a whole have the right, without any outside interference, to solve the issues between North and South by mutual consent. The latter statement was key to winning support for the agreement from nationalists and republicans. It also established a devolved power-sharing government within Northern Ireland (which had been suspended from 14 October 2002 until 8 May 2007), where the government must consist of both unionist and nationalist parties.

Though the number of active participants in the Troubles was relatively small, and the paramilitary organizations that claimed to represent the communities were unrepresentative of the general population, the Troubles touched the lives of many people in Northern Ireland on a daily basis, while occasionally spreading to the Republic of Ireland and England.

3.23 Thatcherism

- 1978: shift to service industries, market capitalism
- “The collective experience of the British working class has always been that only the group assures their survival, and the Thatcher years and the politics of that time were dedicated to destroying the British working class by destroying the unions and by closing down manufacturing industry. This has created a class of people increasingly under threat, and increasingly vulnerable. Margaret Thatcher’s call was: "And, you know, there is no such thing as society. There are individual men and women, and there are families. And no government can do anything except through people, and people must look to themselves first." (http://briandeer.com/social/thatcher-society.htm) The working class were stripped of the industries where their work places were, were pushed into unemployment or low-paid work in the so-called "service industries" and were given consumer goods (from the gutter press via the trivial media to cheap amusements) to compensate (Danny => has learnt this so well that 'choice' for him is 10 different kinds of beer in the pub).”

Margaret Thatcher served as **Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1979 to 1990** and Leader of the Conservative Party from 1975 to 1990. She is the only woman to have held either post.
In her foreword to the 1979 Conservative manifesto, Thatcher had written of "a feeling of helplessness that a once great nation has somehow fallen behind." She entered 10 Downing Street determined to reverse what she perceived as a precipitate national decline, characterized by a combination of high inflation, high unemployment and stagnant or slow growth. Her political philosophy and economic policies emphasized deregulation, particularly of the financial sector, flexible labor markets, and the selling off

of state owned companies. Amid a recession and high unemployment, Thatcher's popularity decreased, though economic recovery and the 1982 Falklands War brought a resurgence of support and she was re-elected in 1983. She took a hard line against trade unions, survived the Brighton hotel bombing assassination attempt and opposed the Soviet Union (her tough-talking rhetoric gained her the nickname the "Iron Lady"); she was re-elected for an unprecedented third term in 1987. The following years would prove difficult, as her Poll tax plan was largely unpopular, and her views regarding the European Community were not shared by others in her Cabinet. She resigned as Prime Minister in November 1990 after Michael Heseltine's challenge to her leadership of the Conservative Party.

Under the Thatcher government the **taming of inflation displaced high employment as the primary policy objective**. Over two million manufacturing jobs were ultimately lost in the recession of 1979-81. This labor-shedding helped firms deal with long-standing X-inefficiency from over-manning, enabling the British economy to catch up to the productivity levels of other advanced capitalist countries.

3.3 Great Britain and the World

3.31 British Empire/Commonwealth

The British Empire comprised the dominions, colonies, protectorates, mandates, and other territories ruled or administered by the United Kingdom, that had originated with the overseas colonies and trading posts established by England in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. At its height it was the **largest empire in history** and, for over a century, was the foremost global power. By 1922, the British Empire held sway over a population of about 458 million people, one-quarter of the world's population, and covered more than 13,000,000 square miles (33,670,000 km2): approximately a quarter of the Earth's total land area. As a result, its political, linguistic and cultural legacy is widespread. At the peak of its power, it was often said that "the sun never sets on the British Empire" because its span across the globe ensured that the sun was always shining on at least one of its numerous territories.
During the Age of Discovery in the 15th and 16th centuries, Spain and Portugal pioneered European exploration of the globe and in the process, established large overseas empires. Envious of the great wealth these empires bestowed, England, France and the Netherlands began to establish colonies and trade networks of their own in the Americas and Asia. A series of wars in the 17th and 18th centuries with the Netherlands and France left England (Britain, following the 1707 Act of Union with Scotland) the dominant colonial power in North America and India. However, the loss of the Thirteen Colonies in North America in 1783 after a war of independence was a blow to Britain, depriving it of its most populous colonies. Despite this setback, British attention soon turned towards Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Following the defeat of Napoleonic France in 1815, Britain enjoyed a century of effectively unchallenged dominance, and expanded its imperial holdings across the globe. Increasing degrees of autonomy were granted to its white settler colonies, some of which were reclassified as dominions.
The growth of Germany and the United States eroded Britain's economic lead by the end of the 19th century. Subsequent military and economic tensions between Britain and

Germany were major causes of the First World War, for which Britain leaned heavily upon its Empire. The conflict placed enormous financial strain on Britain, and although the Empire achieved its largest territorial extent immediately after the war, it was no longer a peerless industrial or military power. Despite emerging victorious, the Second World War saw Britain's colonies in South-East Asia occupied by Japan, which damaged British prestige and accelerated the decline of the Empire. Within two years of the end of the war, Britain granted independence to its most populous and valuable colony, India.
During the remainder of the 20th century, most of the territories of the Empire became independent as part of a larger global decolonization movement by European powers, ending with the return of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China in 1997. After independence, many former British colonies joined the Commonwealth of Nations, a free association of independent states. Sixteen Commonwealth nations share their head of state, Queen Elizabeth II, as Commonwealth realms. Fourteen territories remain under British sovereignty, the British overseas territories.

4.0 Extreme Situations

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5.0 Promised Lands Dreams and Reality(Australia)

5.01 Comparison Australia/America (based on **“The Real Australia” by Robert Hughes**)

Aspects	**Australia**	**America**
Beliefs/Social Structures	realism	idealism
	Continent of sin dump for English criminals	God’s chosen country City upon a hill, Puritans
	No sense of mission	Sense of mission
	No Australian exceptionalism	American exceptionalism
	Secular society	Organized religion, churches in power
	No Fundamentalist Christian tradition, natural pagans	Fundamentalist Christian tradition
	Pleasure seekers in all areas of life	Pursuit of happiness
	Jingoism	←
	Worried about what outsiders think, not self-conscious	American exceptionalism

	Modest expectations of life	American dream
	Mateship (loyalty)	individualism
	Dislike of elitism (exception: sports)	egalitarian
	Once class distinctions (between prisoners and the free)	egalitarian
	No philanthropy	Philanthropy
Culture/Way of Life	No derivative Englishness anymore	←
	Traditional obsession with sports	←
	Urbanized people, no “Wild West”	Mixed, city and country
	90% live at the coast	Fertile center
	Gambling belief that superiority is luck	meritocratic
	Short of identity icons	Plenty of them
	Vigorous cultural life, “underknown” culturally	Glorified cultural life, transported all over the world
	Few national heroes	Many of them
Politics	High voting percentages	Low voting percentages
	No fanfare during elections, modest	Expensive political campaigning
	Low on graft	Corruption of democracy
	Skeptical of their politicians	Less skeptical
	Deeply democratic	Politically numb society
	Never a civil war or a revolution	Civil war, declaration of independence…
	Never invaded	←
	Short of political scandals	Many of them
	No thread to the world	Guess what!?!
	Monarchy, remains of colonial times	Independence
Issues	State-sponsored education	Many church schools

Immigration (changing demographic)	←
Aboriginal rights; no apology	Native Americans

5.1 Ecology

5.11 Geography and climate

- Area of 7.682.300 km^2; stretches about 4000 km from east to west
- Central area, known as the Outback, consists mainly of flat desert, mostly unfertile; Uluru (Ayers Rock) within
- In the southern part: fertile areas limited to strips along the coasts
- Harsh and dry climate in most of Australia; moderate (semi-arid) in the south and east, tropical in the north
- Land of extremes: flooded inland towns, cyclones, drought, wildfire/bushfires, buildings are swallowed by the sea
- Australian seasons are the opposite of those in Europe
- unique and varied natural environment including rainforests and wetlands, coral reefs (The Great Barrier Reef), eucalyptus forests and deserts threatened since colonization preservation and protection of natural and wilderness areas

 “Australien: Öko-Wirtschaft für die Wildnis”: Exploitation of wilderness: how are the protection of nature and economic progress reconcilable? Conservation economy (activities that have positive effects for the sustainable developments of endangered areas are compatible, whilst activities that do not have such effects like mining and extensive farming are not compatible)

5.2 Political Issues

5.21 Overview

- The Commonwealth of Australia consists of six states and two territories: New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, Southern Australia, Western Australia, Queensland, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT; separate administrative area of the country’s capital Canberra)
- **constitutional democracy**; parliamentary system of government with a federal government (run by the prime minister and his cabinet; elected every three years; Voting age: 18) and individual state governments; federal parliament consists of two houses: the House of Representatives (lower house) and the senate (upper house); major parties are the Australian Labor Party, the Liberal Party and the National Party (latter two traditionally make up coalitions)

- The legislature: the Commonwealth parliament; the executive: the Federal Executive Council; the judiciary: the High Court of Australia and other federal courts
- Australia is still a monarchy with the **British monarch** at the head of its state; but it enjoys full autonomy; the British sovereign is represented by the governor-general and the state governors

5.22 History

- Long before Europeans arrived, the Australian continent was home to Aboriginal peoples. Archeological evidence suggests they were living there already over 40.000 years ago; they lives in small groups as hunters, fishers and gatherers; by the time of settlement about 300.000 lived on the continent, however, many were killed by settlers and the diseases introduces by Europeans

- In **1770** Captain charted the East Coast and claimed it for Britain, which was looking for a penal colony to send its convicted criminals to; the first British penal colony was established in 1788 at Port Jackson (now Sydney); up to 1840, when the system was stopped, 160.000 convicts were sent to Australia and 409.000 free settlers arrived;
- Difficulties in communication between settlers and Aborigines; pattern of behavior by Aborigines when facing foreigners: curiosity fear anger/aggression flight/escape; settlers were underprepared as little was known about the climate, animal or plant life; encounters with Aborigines mainly hostile

 "The White Man's Burden" by Rudyard Kipling: claims imperialism to be a burden for the white men to "seek another's profit", "to serve your captives' need"; wrongfully legitimizes imperialism as if the reason for imperialism was selfless, as if no economic goals were striven for, as if it had been only for the benefit of the colonized exemplifies imperialist position

- In 1850 Britain granted self-government to the colonies; on 1st Jan. 1901 talks on a federation were completed and The Commonwealth of Australia was formed
- One of the first official acts in 1901: **"White Australia Policy"**, which restricted non-white immigration and was maintained until 1972
- Indigenous Australians, who were denied many rights previously, won the right to vote in 1967; a new government policy to end discrimination was introduced to give them equal rights

5.23 Immigration

- in the beginning many convicts; gold mining changed the pattern in 1850s/60s; 1901 The Immigration Restriction Act was designed to prevent Asians and Pacific Islanders from settling there; before and after WWII large numbers of Jewish and East-European refuges settled (reason: military invasion through e.g. Japan became a real fear; safety believed to be dependent on growth of population); major policy change in 1950s/60s numbers of non-Europeans were admitted if they were skilled and qualified(economically useful)

- Illegal immigrants and refugees are kept in detention, isolated, mostly on islands outside of the Australian mainland (if they reach the mainland, they can apply for asylum), waiting for deportation; permanent immigration is strictly controlled;
- **Mandatory detention** in Australia concerns the Australian federal government's policy and system of mandatory detention active from 1992 to date pursuant to which all persons entering the country without a valid visa are compulsorily detained and sometimes subject to deportation.
In the early 2000s, the mandatory detention of people seeking political asylum in Australia attracted considerable controversy. Between 1999 and 2003, over 2000 children, mostly with family members, were held inside immigration detention centers commissioned by the Australian government. Mandatory detention remains a very controversial aspect of Australian immigration policy.
Immigration detainees were incarcerated in one of the Australian immigration detention facilities on the Australian mainland, or on Manus Island or Nauru as part of the Pacific Solution. The detention facilities were managed by the private company, Global Solutions Limited.
In July 2008, the Australian government announced it was ending its policy of automatic detention for asylum seekers who arrive in the country without visas. Also in July 2008, the Rudd Government announced that it was committed to retaining the policy of mandatory detention as an "essential component of strong border control", but that it would be restricted to unlawful non-citizens who pose a threat to the community, those who refuse to comply with visa conditions, or those who need to be detained for the period of conducting health, identity and security checks.

5.24 Indigenous Population

- Until recent times Indigenous people in Australia have been either ignored or hardly recognized; the British claim of Australia was proposing a “terra nullius” – a land belonging to no-one and thus ready for the taking; British common law was instituted, which meant that land could be taken form Aborigines without compensation (the concept of private landownership, however, was foreign to Aborigines); as it became clear that Europeans were to stay, many Aborigines accepted employment by the white settlers (but working conditions were harsh, difficult and dangerous and they were mostly underpaid)

- reconciliation: in 1992 the High Court rejected the **legal doctrine of terra nullius** and ruled that native title existed before the settlement of the British; in 1996 it ruled that indigenous groups may claim native title to land which the government has already leased for other to raise sheep and cattle. As long as activities of the Aborigines do not conflict with those of the leaseholder, they may use the land; the question of further compensation is still being debated
- Nevertheless, full compensation for the past has still not taken place; for years the Howard government has failed to consider any effort to apologize to indigenous people

 “Under the cover of racist myth, a new land grab in Australia” by John Pilger (The Guardian): states that discrimination of Aborigines is still a problem as myths of Aborigines leeching off the state are created to conceal both the recorded genocide in Australia and the intention to regain indigenous land rights. Aborigines are endangered

through the government as it calls remote communities “economically unviable”, which enlarges poverty and denial of resources among them.

 “Bush Boys” by an Anonymous Aboriginal Writer: story of two aboriginal children that become tourist attractions, their lives exploited; their treatment is similar to those of animals in the zoo; however, they refuse to tell their names to visitors, a sign that they have not lost their dignity

5.25 The Stolen Generation

- From the early 1800s onwards most Australian states and territories carried out a policy of forcibly removing Aboriginal children from their parents by the Australian Federal and State government agencies and church missions, under acts of their respective parliaments, and placing them in institutions or foster families. By separating them from their culture, officials hoped, loss of Aboriginality and **assimilation** into white society would follow; the indigenous child welfare system functioned up to the 1970s. Terms such as "stolen" were used in the context of taking children from their families –Aboriginal children were removed from their parents without officials having to establish that they were in any way neglected or mistreated;

 Thea Astley: “Heart is where the home is”: In this story the moving to a safer place is a proposal from a gentle but “foreign” couple to an aboriginal girl. She can’t accept this offer because her heart belongs to this perfectly imperfect home of her tribe where she grew up. The saying “home is where heart is” relates to those who think of their roots and for instance come back to hometown to meet their family. Hence, by living in a place distant from where she grew up, she loses not only her home, but also her “heart”.

5.3 Social Issues

5.31 Population

- 20 million inhabitants, 77% of whom are Australian-born, 23% coming from other countries; population is concentrated along coastal regions; 85% live in urban centers; indigenous population (Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders) lives in central Australia, numbers about 430.000; low population density

5.32 Australian Dream

- The Australian Dream or Great Australian Dream is a belief that in Australia, **home ownership** can lead to a better life and is an expression of success and security. Although this standard of living is enjoyed by many in the existing Australian population, rising house prices compared to average wages are making it increasingly difficult for many, making the "great Australian Dream" unachievable, especially for those living in large cities. It is also noted as having led to urbanization (or more specifically suburbanization), causing extensive urban sprawl in the major cities. The concept of homeownership for all is also found in very similar terms in New Zealand, which shares many cultural and social values with its larger neighbor.

- The Frontier Spirit and spirit of egalitarianism

5.33 Culture

- **Beach culture:** Most of Australia's population lives close to the coastline and the beach has long occupied a special place in the Australian identity. The beach is also a place where people from all over the world meet, mix and lives. For many Australians the beach is a place of work. Today, occupations associated with the coastal environment range from fishing, marine biology and national parks and wildlife rangers to the wide variety of occupations associated with the tourism industry. The Australian Fishing Zone (AFZ) is the third largest in the world, covering nearly nine million square kilometers. The leisure industry is a major employer of people along Australia's coastline. A safe and enjoyable visit or holiday to the beach relies on local government maintenance personnel, retailers, campground operators and hoteliers, tourism operators, and the thousands of people who staff retail food and drink outlets close to popular beaches. Australians make use of the coast as a destination for relaxation and fun. Many people live close enough to a beach to visit regularly, and others use the beach for annual holidays. Some people go to the beach simply for the sun and surf. Others go to sail, parasail, fish, snorkel, scuba dive and beach comb. Coastal sight-seeing is a very popular pursuit for Australians and international tourists as there is many scenic coastal drives with well appointed lookouts.

5.34 Dreamtime

- Refers to the time of creation as well as the continued process of life deriving from it in Aboriginal mythology
- During the creation Ancestor Spirits shaped the world and all living beings
- Upon having created everything these Spirits changed into various things and beings within their created world (e. g. rocks, stars or animals); they still exist in these forms today
- Accordingly, everything natural is a symbolic footprint of these beings and every place, being deeply connected to its origin, has a certain potency called “The Dreaming”
- Every being exists eternally in the Dreaming; these souls, before having become physical, preexist as spirit-children
- Thus, every being is through its Dreaming connected with every other being; these relations constitute to the Aboriginal manner of protecting their environment
- The Dreaming also refers to the beliefs of an individual or a group
- Stories and legends of the Dreamtime as well as rituals and rites are passed from each generation to the next
- These beliefs and traditions establish the values, laws and behavior within Aboriginal societies
- From tribe to tribe there exist different stories and legends about the Dreamtime; even the stories about the creation itself vary
- These myths are made up by a very complex system of stories bound to the creation of various places, things and being

- An Australian Aboriginal Legend:

Lord Baiame created the earth, plants as well as animals, and created man and woman to rule over them. However, he prohibited them to eat the animals: “These are the plants you shall eat – these and these, but not the animals I have created. “

Having completed the creation, the All-Father departed. New life caught a glimpse of the world as children were born and the world of Baiame began to be populated. Sun and rain brought life to the plants providing food for the humans.

One year though, the rain stopped to fall and without it a new experience arose, hunger. In despair a man killed one of the forbidden animals and shared the animal with his wife. They offered some of it to a friend, but he refused, remembering Baiame's prohibition. Firmly, he turned his back on the tempting food and walked away, resisting the couple’s persuasions.

After the hunger of the two was satisfied, they remembered their friend and followed his trail. It led them to a river, where they could see him on the other side lying under a gum tree. Suddenly they saw a black figure, half man, half beast, approaching the man who was lying there. The monster picked up the calm body, carried it up into the branches and disappeared.

For the first time since creation, death had come to one of Baiame’s beings; the black monster was the Spirit of Death, Yowee. The whole world mourned because a man, once alive, was dead as well as the animals that had been killed for food.

“It was a sad conclusion to the hopes of a world in the making, but the bright cross of the Southern Cross is a sign to men that there is a place for them in the limitless regions of space, the home of the All-Father himself, and that beyond death lies a new creation. “

5.35 Multiculturalism

“The Real Australia” by Robert Hughes: claims Australia to be one of the most successful multicultural countries of the world; dates back to 2000

- Issue has many facets to it through the long history of multiculturalism in Australia (Immigration after WWII)

”Two tribes go to war” by Germaine Greer (The Guardian): battles between “men of Middle-Eastern appearance” and “moronic surfies” at Cronulla Beach exemplify the racist mindset evident in today’s Australia; racism is fueled by “universal ignorance and working-class frustration” of the one hand, by the “redneck media”, reinforcing “the image of the universal enemy”, on the other hand

- Former prime minister refuses to speak of racism; claiming alcohol abuse to be a cause

6.0 Ideals and Reality

6.1 Structural Problems

6.11 Violence

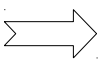
- The Teddy Boys in 1950/60 Britain: working class teenagers; youth culture; had a prescribed dress code (jackets inspired by Edwardian age(early years of the 20th century); music: rock'n'roll; motor scooters; a form of protest that created shock; gang fighting and racism: the urban Teddy Boys (Some Teds formed gangs and gained notoriety following violent clashes with rival gangs which were often exaggerated by the popular press.)

- **"Enlightened Behaviour" by The Guardian:** acne lights fight juvenile delinquency by stressing their skin problems; although successful, they discriminate youths that are not among the problem cases and they do not deal with the real problem; they do not solve the issues that cause delinquent behavior; unwanted behavior is not prevented, it is merely not seen any more in official places

- **"Train them like rats" by Cherry Potter (The Guardian)**: reports that boot camps (deprivation of warmth, food, freedom, comfort, social environment; harsh disciple) and behavioral psychology induce conformity (as it is the only way out of the terror of boot camps) amongst youngsters as other methods of dealing with these teenagers have not shown satisfying results fast enough; casualties and violations of human rights accompany boot camps – a reason for solicitude

6.111 Comparison reality with A Clockwork Orange (Alex)

ACO (as depicted through Alex)	**reality**
Violence for violence's sake	Social pressure
Dysfunctional family	←
No school, no conformity	←
amoral	immoral
No material reason	poverty
Leader image	←Promote self-image
Group setting	←
Classical music	No arts
sophistication	illiteracy
nadsat	← gang slang
Highly formal manner of speaking	Gang slang
drugs	←
idle	←
Not disadvantaged	disadvantaged



Alex gives us reason to doubt whether the stereotypical archetypes we are confronted with by the media are really fitting to describe delinquent youths and whether the reasons for youth crime are not more diversified than we think

ACO (world)	**reality**
Division in rich and poor	←
Adults frightened, nights ruled by criminal youths	Less extreme
alcohol prohibition	No alcohol prohibition
⌙ is alcohol really are reason for violence; isn't its origin more complicated than that?	
Arbitrary laws; no solutions by the government	Precise laws
Correctional institutions useless	Correctional institutions partially of use
⌙ Bad behavior does not necessarily exist for bad behavior; solution may not lie in forcing to correct bad behavior, but in dealing with its causes	
Corrupt police	Less corrupt police
⌙ How are delinquents to be changed, if the police as a role model of society is not better	
Rules exist, but are taken not seriously	Rules are taken seriously, but the future might look like ACO, if no different line is adopted, if no change in dealing with problems occurs

⇒ ACO serves as a warning of a future that might come into being, if nothing is changed to the better WHAT WE PERCEIVE AS IMMORAL BEHAVIOR MIGHT TRANSFORM INTO AMORAL BEHAVIOR

7.0 Globalization

- Globalization (or globalization) describes an ongoing process by which regional economies, societies, and cultures have become integrated through a globe-spanning network of communication and trade. The term is sometimes used to refer specifically to economic globalization: the integration of national economies into the international economy through trade, foreign direct investment, capital flows, migration, and the spread of technology. However, globalization is usually recognized as being driven by a combination of economic, technological, socio-

cultural, political, and biological factors. The term can also refer to the transnational circulation of ideas, languages, or popular culture through acculturation.

- Economic globalization: multinational companies produce wherever labor and costs are cheapest and sell globally; priorities are efficiency, speed, flexibility and profit
- Technological globalization: advances in technology over past decades(microelectronic revolution); new efficiency in communication
- Cultural Globalization: spread of national cultural phenomena around the world(sport, arts, fashion, food, religion, music)
- Hopes: work and prosperity for developing countries, business opportunities for global players, spread of freedom, democracy and Human Rights
- Fears: growing interdependence, negative cultural influences, manipulation through the mass media, erosion of national cultures, illegal immigration, pollution of the environment, uncontrollable multinational companies

- **Shashi Tharoor:** "Are Human Rights Universal? ": - cites critics of HR: development countries cannot afford HR; Authoritarianism is more effective

- See **Jihad vs. McWorld**

- **"Is American culture "American"?"** by Richard Pells: over centuries America has been influenced by foreign cultures through immigrants and merged ("Americanized") these influences with its own culture. Hence, American exports of culture are replica of the world's culture. Through the simplicity of the English language and America's multicultural demographic appeal to audiences abroad is maximal. America is not an imposer of culture, but a mirror image of the world.

- **"The Three eras of globalization"** by Thomas L. Friedman: G1.0 (1492-1800): countries through religion and imperialism emerged in global competition
  G2.0 (1800-2000): multinational companies driving global integration; birth of a global economy
  G3.0 (2000-???): individuals collaborating and competing globally as the dynamic force of change unique era, because diversity flourishes; individuals from everywhere take part
  All eras shrink the world to size tiny

8.0 Othello

8.1 Tragedy

- A literary form; origin is the Greek theatre
- Greek tragedy: heroes, exemplary figures brought low by the gods
- Shakespearean tragedy: tragic hero= prince/king; brought low by a **flaw in his character** (ambition, lust…) The downfall and destruction of a brave, respected and powerful hero resulting from some hidden weakness in his character

- Modern times: tragic hero=ordinary person; brought low by a mix of systemic and psychological factors
- pattern in Shakespeare's tragedies: an existing political or social order is violated; after confusion and suffering this order is restored in a process of purging; the defeat and destruction of the forces of disorder costs innocent lives
- Imagery takes on a dramatic function
- in character tragedies such as Othello the hero is faced with the problem of evil in himself and others; he cannot overcome it; by giving way to his fatal weakness he sets of a train of disorder within his mind, the people around him and the state(world of man is linked with world of nature and the elements)

8.2 Shakespeare's life

- born 1564 (probably 23rd of April); died 23rd of April 1616
- Son of a family of local landowners, dealers in agricultural products; seven siblings
- Married Ann Hathaway at age 18; children: Susan (1583); twins Hamnet and Judith (1585)
- After some "lost years" (a blank in history) he was a famed actor and playwright by 1592; by 1594 member of "Lord Chamberlain's Company" (actors back then were not socially accepted; they needed the protection of a Lord, hence the name); he stayed with them until his retirement in 1611
- Move to Globe theatre in 1599; new name for his group in 1603: "The King's Men" after accession of King James

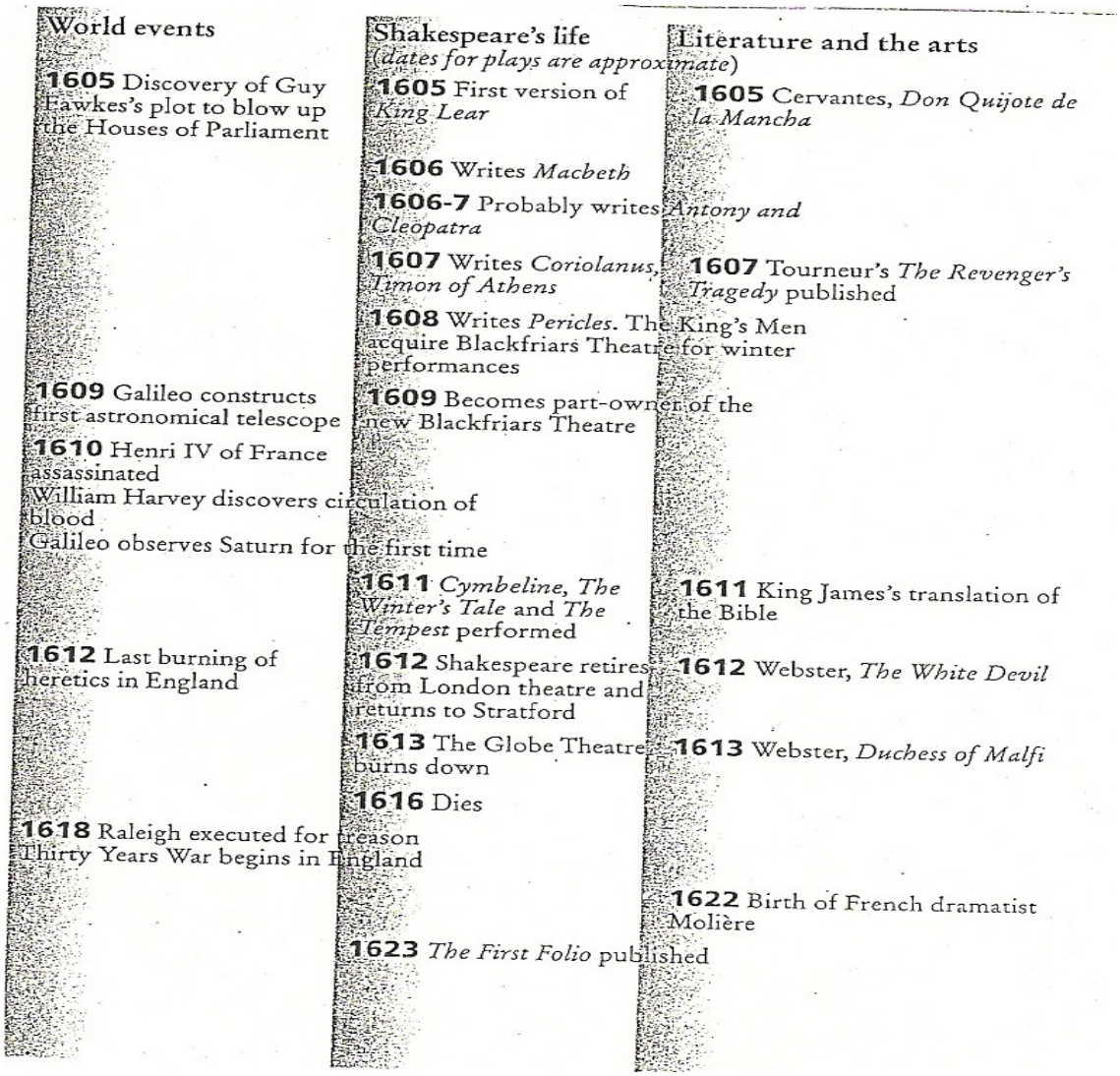
8.3 The Elizabethan Age

CHRONOLOGY

World events	Shakespeare's life (*dates for plays are approximate*)	Literature and the arts
1492 Columbus sails to America		
		1513 Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*
1534 Henry VIII breaks with Rome and declares himself head of the Church of England		
1556 Archbishop Cranmer burnt at the stake		
1558 Elizabeth I accedes to throne		
	1564 Born in Stratford-upon-Avon	
		1565 Giambattisa Cinzio Giraldi, *The Hecatommithi*
		1565–7 English translation, by Arthur Golding, of *Ovid's Metamorphosis*
1568 Mary Queen of Scots taken prisoner by Elizabeth I		
1570 Elizabeth I excommunicated by Pope Pius V		
1571 The Battle of Lepanto		
		1576 Erection of the first specially built public theatres in London – the Theatre and the Curtain
1577 Francis Drake sets out on round the world voyage		
		1581 Barnabe Rich, *Farewell to Military Profession*
1582 Outbreak of the plague in London	**1582** Marries Anne Hathaway	
	1583 His daughter, Susanna, is born	
1584 Raleigh's sailors land in Virginia		**1584** French translation, by Gabriel Chappuys, of Cinzio's *The Hecatommithi*
	1585 His twins, Hamnet and Judith, are born	
	late 1580s–early 90s Probably writes *Henry VI* (*Parts I, II, III*) and *Richard III*	
1587 Execution of Mary Queen of Scots after implication in plot to murder Elizabeth I		**1587** Christopher Marlowe, *Tamburlaine the Great*
1588 The Spanish Armada defeated	**c1585–92** Moves to London	
1589 Accession of Henri IV to French throne		**c1589** Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy* (first revenge tragedy)

World events	Shakespeare's life (*dates for plays are approximate*)	Literature and the arts
		1590 Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*
		1592 Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*
1592 Plague in London closes theatres	**1592** Writes *The Comedy of Errors*	
	1593 Writes *Titus Andronicus, The Taming of the Shrew*	
	1594 onwards Writes exclusively for the Lord Chamberlain's Men. Writes *Two Gentlemen of Verona, Love's Labours Lost, Richard II*	
	1595 Writes *Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream*	
1596 Drake perishes on expedition to West Indies	**1596** Hamnet dies; William granted coat of arms	
	1598 Writes *Much Ado About Nothing*	**1598** Christopher Marlowe, *Hero and Leander*
	1599 Buys share in the Globe Theatre; Writes *Julius Caesar, As You Like It, Twelfth Night*	**1599** Translation, by Sir Lewes Lewkenor, of Cardinal Contareno's *The Commonwealth and Government of Venice*
	1600 *The Merchant of Venice* printed	**1600** John Parry, *History and Description of Africa*
	1600–1 Writes *Hamlet, The Merry Wives of Windsor*	
	1601 Writes *Troilus and Cressida*	
	1602 Writes *All's Well That Ends Well*	
	1602–4 Probably writes *Othello*	
1603 Death of Queen Elizabeth I; accession of James I	**1603 onwards** His company enjoys patronage of James I as The King's Men	**1603** Marston's *The Malcontent* first performed
	1604 *Othello* performed. Writes *Measure for Measure*	

World events	Shakespeare's life (*dates for plays are approximate*)	Literature and the arts
		1605 Cervantes, *Don Quijote de La Mancha*
1605 Discovery of Guy Fawkes's plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament	**1605** First version of *King Lear*	
	1606 Writes *Macbeth*	
	1606-7 Probably writes *Antony and Cleopatra*	
	1607 Writes *Coriolanus, Timon of Athens*	**1607** Tourneur's *The Revenger's Tragedy* published
	1608 Writes *Pericles*. The King's Men acquire Blackfriars Theatre for winter performances	
1609 Galileo constructs first astronomical telescope	**1609** Becomes part-owner of the new Blackfriars Theatre	
1610 Henri IV of France assassinated		
William Harvey discovers circulation of blood		
Galileo observes Saturn for the first time		
	1611 *Cymbeline, The Winter's Tale* and *The Tempest* performed	**1611** King James's translation of the Bible
1612 Last burning of heretics in England	**1612** Shakespeare retires from London theatre and returns to Stratford	**1612** Webster, *The White Devil*
	1613 The Globe Theatre burns down	**1613** Webster, *Duchess of Malfi*
	1616 Dies	
1618 Raleigh executed for treason		
Thirty Years War begins in England		
		1622 Birth of French dramatist Molière
	1623 *The First Folio* published	



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- The Italian **Renaissance**: complete break with the 1000 years before ("Dark Ages"); revival of ancient Roman and Greek civilization and culture; movement against the domination of the church; spread of literacy; study of language and rhetoric, nature and its laws; humanism(emphasis placed on the dignity of man, only way to dignity through knowledge); advances in sciences (Copernicus, Kepler, Galilee, geocentric vs. heliocentric theory); age of invention, discovery and exploration (Voyages of Discovery: Columbus 1492; Vasco da Gama Cape of Good Hope to India 1498); dawn of the Capitalist era (trade between sovereign states); beginning of our "Modern Age"

- The Renaissance in England: beginning in 1485 after the end of a long civil war between the House of Lancaster (Henry VII) and the House of York (Richard III) for the English throne(War of the Roses); defeat of York, new dynasty: The Tudors, reigning until 1603(death of Elizabeth); reorganization of the economic system, trade at home and abroad, gunpowder, growing spirit of nationalism; Elizabethan England= police state; Reformation: Three changes in 12 years; final break with Rome in 1534 under Henry VIII lead to a period of **religious and social unrest**; England torn apart: attempts to win England back to Roman Catholicism (1588 Spanish Armada set to conquer England; Maria Stuart)

8. 4 Elizabethan view of the world

- **Order**: God created the universe, established Order and Unity in a system in which everything had its rightful place according to its rank (**Chain of Beings**, a hierarchy of lifeless and living thing; See Sheet). Medieval man was aware of order and of the necessity of keeping it. Through original sin ("Erbsünde") however, harmony was disrupted and God punished men by sending disorder, illness, death and destruction. Life is dependent on external fate through the influence of the stars or the unjust rule of a female power called Fortune. Also **Nature**, although acting by her own rules (Law of Nature), is an instrument of God giving life and form, but also decay and destruction. The Order of nature is always threatened by disorder (e.g. thunderstorms, death of kings, civil war, disorder within the soul (between the microcosm of a man's soul and the macrocosm of the universe existed a correspondence)). Civil Law establishes Order, is based on the law of Nature, which is subordinate to God's law.

The Great Chain of Being

"The Courtier disdaineth the citizen;
The citizen the countryman;
the shoemaker the cobbler.
But unfortunate is the man who does not have anyone he can look down upon."
~ Tomas Nash, 1593

In theory, there are but two classes of people: Nobles and Commoners. In practice, there are a huge number or gradations of both classes. These gradations are thought of as parts of a Great Chain of Being, which extends from God down to the lowest forms of life, and even to the trees and stones of the earth. This Great Chain, first described by St. Thomas Aquinas, is what holds the world together. The Great Chain is as follows:

God
Angels
Kings/Queens
Archbishops
Dukes/Duchesses
Bishops
Marquises/Marchionesses
Earls/Countesses
Viscounts/Viscountesses
Barons/Baronesses
Abbots/Deacons
Knights/Local Officials
Ladies-in-Waiting
Priests/Monks
Squires
Pages
Messengers
Merchants/Shopkeepers
Tradesmen
Yeomen Farmers
Soldiers/Town Watch
Household Servants
Tennant Farmers
Shephards/Herders
Beggars
Actors
Thieves/Pirates
Gypsies
Animals
Birds
Worms
Plants
Rocks

- The **4 Humours**: man was made up of the four elements; these were converted in his liver into four humours, basic liquids, which were an important force of life; humours are influenced by stars, life, food, seasons of the year. Their mixture changes and alters the character, the complexion (color of the face) and the constitution of a man. Disturbed

balance of the humours leads to illness of the mind and soul; they take control of it, influence the will; man becomes a slave to passion and lives sinfully.

Element:	Quality in the Nature and Man:	Humour:	Complexion:	Constitution:	Character:
Earth	Cold and dry	melancholy	Dark-colored	lean	Not cheerful, gloomy
Water	Cold and moist	phlegmatic	pale	fat	Inactive, lazy, dull, slack
Air	Hot and moist	sanguine	Ruddy, fair	fat	Cheerful, courageous, lustful, optimistic
Fire	Hot and dry	choleric	Yellowish face	lean	Angry, rash, proud

- **Superstition**: based on fear and ignorance, belief in magic, witches associated with the devil and the supernatural powers, future-telling, ghosts of dead people, fairies and goblins playing tricks on humans, the night as the time in which dark and evil forces rule, astrology, alchemy

8.5 Shakespeare's Themes

-**Order/Disorder**
- Appearance and Reality: "There is no art to find the mind's construction in a face."
- Ambition and crime
- **Evil**: villain/antagonist is involved in actions that shall lead to the downfall of the protagonist; his ambitions are selfish, his methods illegal and malicious, his characteristics negative
- Love and hatred
- Humor and the ordinary people
- War
- Life, youth, growing old, death

8.6 Shakespearean theatre

- Modern fiction tries to be realistic, seeks to persuade us that events are really happening; there is a distinction between stage and audience
- In Elizabethan theatre this distinction did not exist; Elizabethan play acknowledge the presence of the audience addressing it through soliloquies; crowds even join the play and there was a great deal of clowning; plays lived through theatricality, there was no chance of creating the illusion of reality; plays are self-reflexive

- Shakespeare’s attempt is **not realistic, but thematic**: human life is repeatedly rendered through the imagery of the stage; life is like fiction and fiction is like life; “All the world’s a stage…”

8.7 Machiavelli

Machiavellianism is, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, "the employment of **cunning and duplicity** in statecraft or in general conduct", deriving from the Italian Renaissance diplomat and writer Niccolò Machiavelli, who wrote Il Principe (The Prince) and other works. "Machiavellian" (and variants) became very popular as a term in the late 16th century in English speaking countries. The word has a similar use in modern psychology.

In psychology:
Machiavellianism is also a term that some social and personality psychologists use to describe a person's tendency to deceive and manipulate others for personal gain. In the 1960s, Richard Christie and Florence L. Geis developed a test for measuring a person's level of Machiavellianism. This eventually became the MACH-IV test, a twenty-statement personality survey that is now the standard self-assessment tool of Machiavellianism. People scoring above 60 out of 100 on the MACH-IV are considered high Machs; that is, they endorsed statements such as, "Never tell anyone the real reason you did something unless it is useful to do so," (No. 1) but not ones like, "Most people are basically good and kind" (No. 4). People scoring below 60 out of 100 on the MACH-IV are considered low Machs; they tend to believe, "There is no excuse for lying to someone else," (No. 7) and, "Most people who get ahead in the world lead clean, moral lives" (No. 11). Christie, Geis, and Geis' graduate assistant David Berger went on to perform a series of studies that provided experimental verification for the notion of Machiavellianism.
Machiavellianism is one of the three personality traits referred to as the dark triad, along with narcissism and psychopathy. Some psychologists consider Machiavellianism to be essentially a subclinical form of psychopathy, although recent research suggests that while Machiavellianism and psychopathy overlap, they are distinct personality constructs.

8.8 Othello

8.81Othello Plot Analysis

- Initial Situation

Wedding bells!
Othello and Desdemona fall in love and run away together to get married. Everything’s peachy! What’s interesting is that, in Othello, this takes place before the action. The first scene, with Iago complaining to Roderigo, is more of a conflict, so the initial situation is what they reveal to have happened previously.

- Conflict

Interracial marriage not approved by Dad. Also, war and a villain.
The conflict comes in a few different forms. First, you’ve got Desdemona’s dad all angry that his daughter secretly married a black man. Next, it looks like war with the Turks. Last and most importantly, you’ve got a livid Iago itching to wreak some havoc.

- Complication

Iago hatches a plan

While some of our conflicts go away (like the war and Brabantio, at least for the time being), others (Iago wanting to wreak havoc) lead to further complication. Iago is no longer an angry man; he's now an angry man with a plan. Not to mention, the convoluted machinations he devises are complicated enough in their own right, even without a classic plot analysis.

- Climax

"I am your own for ever"

The intrigue of Othello is watching Iago work his manipulative magic. The deceptions grow, bit by bit, until Othello is quite ensnared by his own jealous thoughts. The plot thickens and thickens, and the complications twist and turn until we finally arrive at the psychological climax: Othello's declaration that he'll kill his wife. We chose this as the climax, rather than the actual killing, because we are building toward Iago's defeat of Othello's mind, not Othello's defeat of Desdemona's body. If you want to pinpoint it down to a specific moment, check out Iago's "I am your own for ever" speech, which is clearly bad news for our hero.

- Suspense

Othello will soon kill Desdemona

Now that we know Othello's going to kill Desdemona, we get all worked up in the suspense of when it's actually going to happen. We're also not sure how things will work out for Iago. Will he get away with his plan? What will happen with Roderigo and Cassio?

- Denouement

Almost everybody dies

The denouement starts as soon as Desdemona dies. Minutes after she dies, Emilia figures out that Iago is responsible for the whole mess. When she shares this with Othello and his men, Iago kills her. Othello, broken by grief and guilt, stabs himself.

- Conclusion

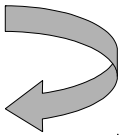
Bizarre silence from Iago

Cassio survives. So does Iago, who refuses to explain why he did what he did and swears he will never speak again. It's an unsatisfying conclusion, since we wanted the cash-in moment where the detective explains who did what in what room with whom.

- Othello, who appears to be a brave general, a noble husband and no slave to passion, is far too easily tricked by Iago into believing in his wife's unfaithfulness, thereby showing a previously hidden side of his own character. He fails to realize that Iago's intentions are evil and that Desdemona is really the most faithful of wife's, for he is deceived by appearances and filled with rage and jealousy and turns into a bestial and hateful wife-murderer. At last he regains some of his dignity by acknowledging his guilt and expressing willingness to accept punishment.

8.82 Comparison of Othello and Iago +Characterizations

	Iago	**Othello**
+	Devious, clever, lots of energy, in control over his passions, of himself,	Noble warrior in service of the Venetian state, skilled warrior and leader, honest,

	ambitious, flexible	honorable, adventurous, strong, brave(valiant), loving, polite tactful, courteous
-		Too trusting, sense of honor, proud, naive anger
		jealous
	inherently evil, disrespectful, not honest, tricky, scheming, two-faced, vengeful, rude, loveless, racist, alone, bitter, greedy, selfish	
neutral	No master plan	Dark skinned appearance, cultural and racial outsider, exotic,

8.83 Themes

- **Hate**:

Hatred is supposed to have a cause, some concrete event or insult that inspires a lasting rage. But in Othello, the play's villain is motivated by a hatred that seems to elude any reasonable definition. Iago's hatred and his determination to destroy his boss, Othello, seem out of proportion with the reasons he gives for it: anger that Othello did not promote him or jealousy that Othello might have slept with Iago's wife. Iago's loathing has been famously called a "motiveless malignancy" that redefines our understanding of hatred, making it seem a self-propelling passion rather than the consequence of any particular action.

- Jealousy:

Othello is the most famous literary work that focuses on the dangers of jealousy. The play is a study of how jealousy can ruin lives – even with only the most circumstantial evidence of guilt. Jealousy here is harnessed as a weapon, a weapon made so lethal because its victim ultimately destroys himself and others around him. It is interesting that Iago uses jealousy against Othello, yet jealousy is likely the source of Iago's hatred in the first place. In Othello, jealousy takes many forms, from sexual suspicion to professional competition, but it is, in all cases, destructive.

- **Race**:

Othello is referred to as a "Moor", a term used during the English Renaissance to refer to dark-skinned people in general. "Renaissance representations of the Moor were vague, varied, inconsistent, and contradictory. As critics have established, the term "Moor" was used interchangeably with such similarly ambiguous terms as "African," "Ethiopian," "Negro," and even "Indian" to designate a figure from different parts of Africa (or beyond) who was either black or Moslem, neither, or both."

There is no consensus over Othello's racial classification, but the character is normally performed as a black person, although he was frequently performed as an Arab during the

nineteenth century. In III.III Othello speaks of himself, saying "Haply for I am black" and later in III.III he denounces Desdemona's supposed sin as being "black as mine own face." Desdemona's physical whiteness is otherwise presented in opposition to Othello's dark skin; V.II "that whiter skin of hers than snow." Iago refers to their racial difference when in I.I he tells Brabantio that "an old black ram / is tupping your white ewe".
Othello is one of the first black heroes in English literature. A general, he has risen to a position of power and influence despite his race and his status as a foreigner in Venice. He even marries a wealthy and desirable (white) Venetian woman. Despite all this, Othello constantly faces insidious racism from other characters, and the racism focuses on his sexual relationship with a white woman. Othello himself defies many stereotypes, but it's no coincidence that he's a tragic hero. Othello's race and outsider status are central to his susceptibility to Iago's plotting; Othello himself, despite all his pride, reveals self-doubt rooted, at least partially, in his race.

- Women and Femininity:
Women have it hard in Othello. The two marriages the play depicts are both marked by male jealousy and cruelty, and both wives end up dead at the hands of their own husbands. Female sexuality is a huge threat to the men in the play, and both Othello and his nemesis, Iago, are easily convinced that their wives are cheating on them with someone else. The women spend most of their time together talking about the unreasonable harshness they suffer at the hands of their husbands, but they are helpless to do anything, including saving themselves.
Even though Desdemona has an idealistic view of marriage and Emilia a cynical one, both women are equally trapped in their relationships with their husbands. The women of Othello exhibit great strength: Desdemona supports her husband throughout the play and consistently remains true to herself; Emilia exposes Iago's plot as soon as she discovers it and attempts to right the wrongs she has committed.

- **Love**:
Love triumphs in Othello, but it's a bitter victory. Desdemona never stops loving her husband, even when he accuses her of cheating on him, slaps her in public, calls her a whore, and strangles her to death. With her last breath, Desdemona chooses to blame herself for her death rather than implicate Othello. The strength of her love is particularly impressive, as it proves impervious to the machinations of Iago, the play's villain. Iago does not believe in love; he reduces it in his mind to dirty desire. While his scheming destroys the central couple's marriage and lives, what he cannot destroy is their love. The role of love in the play is further complicated by Othello's debatable claim that he loved "not wisely, but too well." In this line, Othello reminds us that the passion of love outdoes the reason of logic.
http://www.shmoop.com/othello/themes.html (unfassbar nützlich!)

9.0 1984

9.1 1984 as a dystopian novel

- **Totalitarian surveillance state** (difference authoritarian to totalitarian: authoritarian does not need an ideology)
- Semi god-like head-figure **Big Brother**
- Class society, privileges
- Poverty, devastation
- War, slavery **(** **US foreign policy**; “The object of waging a war is always to be in a better position in which to wage another war.”)
- Necessary bogeyman Goldstein; the Brotherhood (limited opposition)
- Conformed society blind acceptance
- A host of organizations with the ultimate aim to end private life (extinction of privacy)
- ONE party
- Massive surveillance
- No laws
- Inhuman means to keep hierarchy intact (torture, “facecrime”; “thoughtcrime”)
- Alteration of language and the past
- Mass-manipulation

9.2 Conditioning in 1984

- Overview of conditioning: **Behaviorism** Pavlov: the theory of the conditioned reflex
- Two-Minutes Hate despise Goldstein, anger
- War triumph extraordinary pleasure
- Alteration of the past destroy memory and possibility of comparison; essential mean to lead conditioning to success
- Crimestop drop “dangerous thoughts”
- Blackwhite believe that black is white when party demands it } learned conditioning; training since childhood
- Doublethink hold two contradictory thoughts
- Spies and public organizations produce mannerisms that will be directly connected to enacting the “duty to the party”; tie bonds to BB and the party (destroy bonds to family and friends)
- Newspeak limit the ability to think; without suitable words no knowledge of dissatisfaction can arise
- torture 1.learn 2. understand 3. believe party concepts in order to avoid pain
- Poverty keeps masses stupid
- Thought- and facecrime adopt ideology to avoid being caught

⇨ **Limit freedom of thought**; impose beliefs; destroy the individual thought
 Multiculturalism

9.3 Society in 1984

British class

9.4 Emmanuel Goldstein

- Emmanuel Goldstein is a key character of the story, although he is never actually seen physically, and may in fact be nothing more than a propaganda fabrication of the Ministry of Truth.
- Goldstein himself was a former top member of the party, but he had broken away early in the movement and now he tries to lead to the downfall of the party.
- Furthermore, he is the declared enemy of Oceania. In a daily "Two Minutes Hate" and a "Hate Week" every year, the people of Oceania are fed lies about him and his organization, the brotherhood, and urged to fight against the supposed enemy.
- As a matter of fact it is never revealed whether he even exists.

- His function: the presence of an opposition to Big Brother is a pure construction to ensure that support and devotion towards Big B is continuous. So just as Big Brother, Goldstein himself is a character not defined by time. He and the Brotherhood may be a trap set up by the party to make it easier for the thought police to persecute potential thought criminals. Moreover, he is the only enemy of the party not been declared a non-person; because of his function he is indispensable as a bogeyman for the system. Nevertheless, Goldstein can also stand for hope - hope for people like Winston who are unsure if they should revolt against the party and if revolt will have the slightest chance of success. Without him there would be a complete lack of perspective - a better future would be unimaginable.
- The character of Goldstein is considered to be modeled on Leon Trotsky. Trotsky was a Russian revolutionary and Communist theorist who helped Lenin and built up the army; he was expelled from the Communist Party by Stalin and eventually assassinated in Mexico (1879-1940)
Goldstein represents the **bogeyman** used by all regimes to embody the "them" that are against "us"

- **Political figures denounced in Abi-tasks**

10.0 A Clockwork Orange

10.1 Alex

- Character shaped by extremes
- **Violent** (committing robbery, sexual assault, sheer brutality); reason therefore not materialistic nor idealistic; violence for the sake of violence; passion
- Shares interdependence with his droogs (leader needing subordinates; subordinates needing leader)
- Thrown out of school, in a correctional institution; supervision of a carer
- Fashionable
- no respect for adults, but sees through them; estranged relationship to parents
- Perceives violence to be art just as classical music – his passion
- Sophisticated (extremely polite and formal manner of speaking; contrast to gang slang)
- Multi-faceted (cruel, violent, ambivalent, **sophisticated**, fascinating and **amoral**)
 Through his manifold character he becomes the perfect character to symbolize the novels message: freedom of choice has to be granted unconditioned by choosing the extreme of good or evil

- We as readers find ourselves unpleasantly close to Alex as well as to the events as a result of the manipulative character of subjective storytelling.

10.2 The World of ACO

- Grim and **dystopian**; decay
- set in future Great Britain
- Division of society in rich and poor; self-centered; homelessness
- Laws matter only to a minimal degree, are arbitrary
- Prohibition of alcohol (but drugs are allowed)
- Government justifies ethically questionable means by the ends they are supposed to achieve
- Science is no longer bothered by essential human needs (=end in itself)
- Schools are ineffectual
- Weak and corrupted police; recruiting former criminals; armed militias
- Dangerous for unprotected citizens; gang fights
- Prisoners are deprived of their identity and individuality (names=numbers)
- Amoral
 Corrupted government; **comparison USA?; Thatcherism (ethically questionable means)**

10.3 Conditioning in A Clockwork Orange

- **Ludovico technique**: a person set under the influence of drugs, put into a straitjacket, forced to keep his eyes open, sees movies depicting violence, sex, crimes of the Third Reich, the 9th Symphony; drugs create sickness; the person looses pleasure in seeing violence, he avoids thinking of violence to avoid sickness; result of the therapy: violence causes sickness
- The loss of choice follows, criminals become “conditioned clockworks”
- The freedom to act is limited as the ability to choose evil is destroyed, artificial goodness is forced upon the individual

10.4 Morality of choice

Morality and Ethics
The central message of this book seems to be that the freedom to choose (good or evil) is fundamental to mankind. Indeed, this element of moral choice distinguishes humans from machines and robots. However, is moral depravity better than forced morality? Are evil and suffering (freely chosen and caused by people) better than a docile, peaceful state (engineered by the Government)? People like Alex, the prison chaplain, and F. Alexander and co. seem to think so. The State is more interested in stability than any debate on morality and ethics, however.

- **“When a man cannot choose he eases to be a man”** the freedom to choose – independent from choosing good or evil – must be granted, otherwise we are no longer humans we are mere ticking clockworks
- the correction of behavior through means of behavioral psychology must not be the solution to conform behavior; because if it is the solution, we deprive the corrected

adolescent of the most essential freedom to choose and we degrade him to an object, a machine that is to be fixed. Thereby, we ourselves commit something that is no less morally questionable than the crimes the delinquent youth must have committed. The novel urges us to find a more humane way of dealing with these issues, a way through which we can prohibit youth crime without committing a crime ourselves

Fate and Free Will:
A Clockwork Orange highlights the question of whether people are destined to their fate, or whether free will and external circumstances can influence people's life outcomes. Alex believes that humans are born evil and need cultivation to avoid evil. F. Alexander believes that humans are born good, but are corrupted by society and culture. The Government believes that the stability of the State trumps the happiness of its citizens, and readily abolishes moral choice (a fundamental human trait) in the name of stability. In contrast to this, Alex fights vehemently against the notion that his freedom to choose should be compromised at all, as free will is what makes him human to begin with.

Good vs. Evil
The battle between good and evil gets complicated in A Clockwork Orange, because the novel really presents the battle between forced good and chosen evil. Who is better: someone incapable of doing evil, only good, or someone with the freedom to choose whatever path she wants, but opts do evil? Is a "clockwork Christian" more interesting than the likes of Alex? Or is evil Alex more human than the clockwork doer of good deeds? We know this at least: Burgess sides with Alex.
The prison chaplain says that personal choice is required for a person to be deemed "good."

<u>10.5 Music in ACO</u>

- Alex elevates his evil behavior to the status of art, for which he is very passionate, in particular classical music. By Listening to the music of Beethoven and other composers Alex finds solace and happiness.
Hence, violence and music play an important role in his life. The delight he finds when listening to classical music is closely related to the ecstasy he feels when beating up other people. Whilst listening to one recording, for example, Alex imagines “carving the whole litso of the creeching world with cut-throat britva.” Throughout the novel, Alex furthermore emphasizes the connection between music and violence by reserving his most musical language for the descriptions of his most brutal crimes.
- The Ludovico technique causes Alex to lose his love for music. Now, listening to Beethoven equals pain and terror and in the end it is music that leads to the attempt of suicide, which will eventually lead to Alex being cured of his inability to choose. Music becomes a transition. Before being treated with the Ludovico Technique, Alex had the most passionate feelings for music as well as harsh violence. After his treatment he is put through all kinds of pain and agony by not being able to choose or to commit violence, but his wish to die only materializes after he hears the once beloved sounds of Beethoven. These lead him to jump out of a window into death; only it is not death that follows, but a hospital stay. Being cured by the doctors there he finds back to his former self, enjoying classical music. “As Alex went through each stage of mental development, his music became his central awareness of change.”

- Our prejudicial beliefs of the reasons why crime and murder are committed are shattered by the events in the novel. Instead of the stereotypical view that violent movies, violent videogames and social disconnectedness generate violent behavior, Alex connects something as surprising as classical music to violence.

10.6 Nadsat

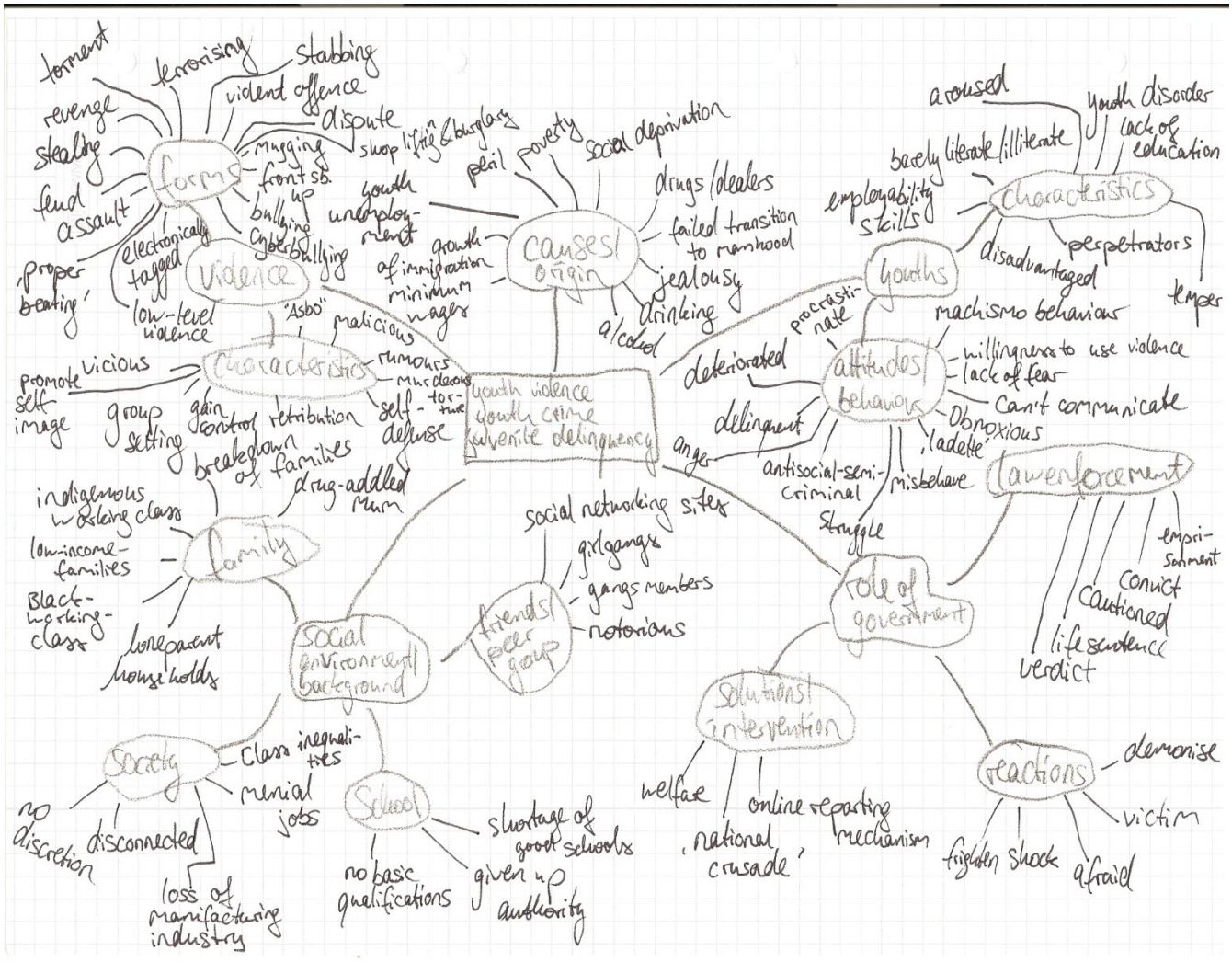
- Teenage slang in ACO; influences from Russian; dirty, sexualized, amoral, discriminating, dehumanized and foul language characteristics
- Mirrors the world and setting of ACO; only a language that has lost its beauty can fit to a dystopian world
- Symbolizes how **slang substitutes proper language**; signifies the loss encountered when adapting slang modern culture?!?

Word field for minority social groups
(Based on the Guardian article "Obama's Indian Problem", 11th Jan. 2010)

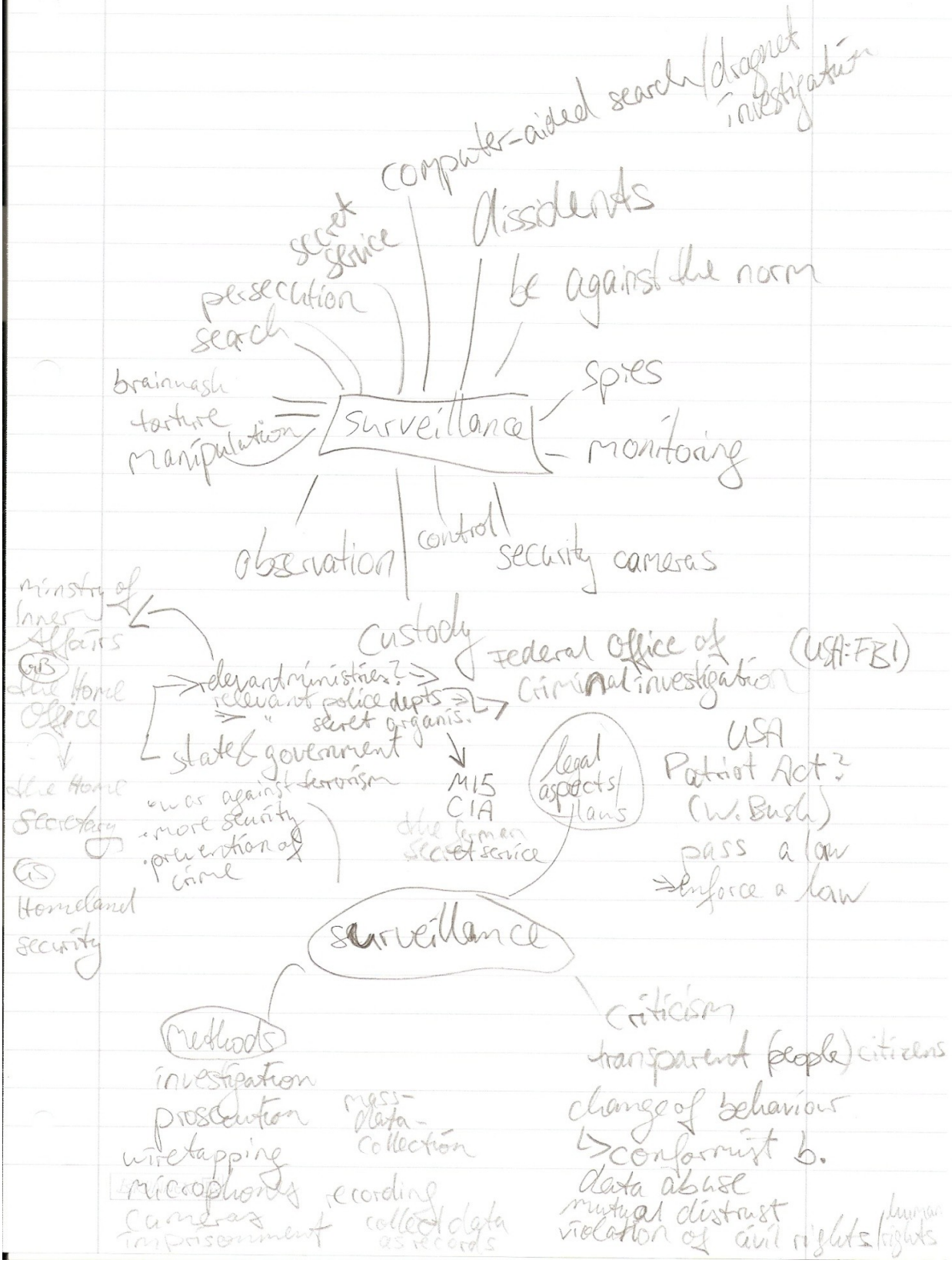
face huge challenges
unemployment
life expectancy
abandoned
suicide rate/statistics – took her life
a response
alcohol abuse – dependency
a sense of hopelessness, feeling dispossessed
no sense of belonging – alienation
a symptom of a wider crisis
feel defeated
typical living conditions
prosperity – poverty
historical problems – historic events
widespread perception
affirmative action programs (positive discrimination)
communities in crisis – abandoned
make a commitment
marginalized, ignored and forgotten
acknowledged – acknowledgement
the poverty trap
a culture of dependency and despair
government policy is created by politicians
loss of self-worth – lack of self-esteem
deprivation – deprived

neglect
sense of alienation
peer pressure

Vocabs – Youth violence



Vocabs - surveillance


computer-aided search/dragnet investigation
secret service
dissidents
persecution
search
be against the norm
brainwash
torture
manipulation
surveillance
spies
monitoring
observation
control
security cameras
ministry of Inner Affairs
(GB) the Home Office
the Home Secretary
(US) Homeland security
custody
federal Office of Criminal investigation (USA: FBI)
relevant ministries?
relevant police depts
secret organis.
state & government
"war against terrorism"
- more security
- prevention of crime
MI5
CIA
the German secret service
legal aspects/ laws
USA Patriot Act?
(W. Bush)
pass a law
enforce a law
surveillance
Methods
investigation
prosecution
wiretapping
microphones
cameras
imprisonment
mass-data-collection
recording
collected data as records
Criticism
transparent (people) citizens
change of behaviour
conformist b.
data abuse
mutual distrust
violation of civil rights
human rights

Death of a Salesman - Facts

Death of a Salesman - characters

Willy: facts: salesman, fired, without success, had an affair, dies at the end, not mentally sane, married, two children, rents money from Charley, daydreams, aggressive, thinks he's important, feels guilty in Lindas presence

illusion: once successful, was „liked", was admired by his children

Linda: facts: Willy's wife, protective of husband, although treated bad, knows of his faults

Biff: facts: tramp, had lots of jobs, without a goal in life, dificult relation to father, not special concerning abilities, unhappy, disillusioned, no graduation, flunked math, lost confidence, honest

illusion: was successful baseball player, was a ladies man, was well liked, admired his father

Happy: facts: no relationships, sleeps with many women -> bum, does unimportant little jobs, pretends to change, lies to parents to make truth look brighter

Ben: illusion: wanted to go to Alaska, ended up in Africa, became rich through gems, Willy's personification of success