

Name:

Day One

Are You Multicultural?

Part 1: Silent read

➔ How would you define your race? Read silently.

Lauren's father is from Antigua. Her mother is from China. She has lived her whole life in Brooklyn, New York. She has brown skin and straight, black hair. At her middle school, she is a member of the Black students' club, but she doesn't know many other West Indian students. She is also the only brown-skinned member of her Chinese dance troupe.

Lauren said, "I never know what to say when people ask me what race I am. Sometimes I give different answers, depending on who is asking." While some people may have no difficulty speaking about their race, for many people, defining race is not that simple. When applying to college, for example, many students have a hard time deciding which racial category to check off.

The meaning of "race" is complex. When some people think about race, they think about skin color. But when others ask about race, they actually want to know where your family came from.

People in the U.S. are expanding their concept of race. Every 10 years, the U.S. government conducts a census of the entire population. One of the census questions asks people to indicate their race. In 1977, Americans could only check one of four categories on census forms. But in 2000, people could choose from nine racial categories. Over the years, the percentage of Americans who identify as multicultural has also increased. In some areas now, youth who identify as multiracial outnumber those who identify as White.



Day One

// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Lauren said, “I never know what to say when people ask me what race I am. Sometimes I give different answers, depending on who is asking.” While some people may have no difficulty speaking about their race, for many people, defining race is not that simple. When applying to college, for example, many students have a hard time deciding which racial category to check off.

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What group of Americans has been increasing in numbers?

How many choices of race were on the 2000 U.S. Census?

Day One

Are You Multicultural?

Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Lauren's father is from Antigua. // Her mother is from China. // She has lived her whole life in Brooklyn, / New York. // She has brown skin / and straight, / black hair. // At her middle school, / she is a member of the Black students' club, / but she doesn't know many other West Indian students. // She is also the only brown-skinned member of her Chinese dance troupe. //

Lauren said, / "I never know what to say / when people ask me what race I am. // Sometimes I give different answers, / depending on who is asking." // While some people may have no difficulty speaking about their race, / for many people, / defining race is not that simple. // When applying to college, / for example, / many students have a hard time deciding which racial category to check off. //

The meaning of "race" is complex. // When some people think about race, / they think about skin color. // But when others ask about race, / they actually want to know where your family came from. //

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I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.