

Name: _____

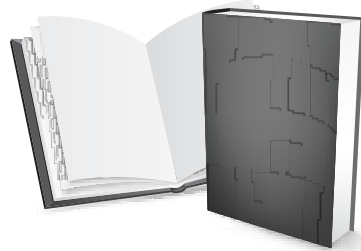
Who gets to be an American?

In the news and in conversations with friends and family, you hear a lot about **immigration**.

Immigrants are people who move to a new country. Today, about 13% of people living in the U.S. are immigrants.

In unit 3.2, we'll read two books and a short story about immigration:

- *Hot Topics: Immigration* by Nick Hunter (nonfiction)
- *Ask Me No Questions* by Marina Budhos (fiction)
- "The All-American Slurp" by Lensey Namioka (fiction)



Who gets to be an American? continued

The United States is unique. Almost every family immigrated to the U.S. from somewhere else. Some families immigrated recently. Other families immigrated tens or even hundreds of years ago. As you read the profiles on the next pages, think about what could make each person an American.

What's your person's story?

Read your person's profile with your group. Answer the questions below.

Name: _____

Where does he or she live now? _____

Did he or she live somewhere before that?

yes, in _____

no

Where is his/her family from? _____

How can you describe your person to the class? What's important to mention?

How did the person answer the question: Are you an American?

yes, I am an American because _____

no, I am not an American because _____

Name	Adam Osman
Likes	Running cross country, writing hip-hop poetry, meeting new people
Languages	Somali, English
Where do you live?	St. Paul, Minnesota
Where does your family come from?	I moved here from Somalia, a country in East Africa, when I was five. I came with my mom, dad, and grandmother. My two younger brothers were born here. I like being the oldest.
High point	When I was 12 I won a poetry contest at school. The whole grade was clapping and my friends were yelling. My family was so proud!
Low point	It was violent when we left Somalia. I remember hearing gunshots and being scared.
Are you an American?	Definitely! I was born in Somalia, but I've lived here since I was five. My friends and family are here. My little brothers are U.S. citizens. I love hamburgers and American hip-hop.





Name	Alicia Richard
Likes	Ice hockey. I love to score! At school, I also play drums in the marching band.
Languages	English. I don't speak French but I can understand things my grandparents say in French. Like 'faït dodo' means go to sleep.
Where do you live?	Lowell, Massachusetts
Where does your family come from?	My family came from Canada in the early 1900s. They came from Montreal to Lowell. My grandparents say their families only really spoke French.
High point	Scoring the winning goal for my club team last winter.
Low point	Getting up in the morning. I love to sleep!
Are you an American?	I am an American. My grandparents were Canadian citizens, though. It might be fun to live in Canada when I finish school.

Name	Vicky Lopez
Likes	Doing crafts and listening to music. I also like watching cooking shows on TV with my aunt or my friends.
Languages	Spanish, English
Where do you live?	Sanford, North Carolina
Where does your family come from?	I was born in a small place in Mexico called Vargas. When I was 5, my mom and dad sent me to live with my aunt in North Carolina. They wanted me to get a better education.
High point	Finally finding my aunt. I love her so much! We're like sisters, we can talk about anything.
Low point	When I first got here, other kids picked on me because of my accent. They would laugh when I had to read out loud.
Are you an American?	No, I'm Mexican. My aunt has a lawyer filing papers so that I can get my U.S. green card. I hope I can become a U.S. citizen when I am older.



Name	Jeff Destin
Likes	Watching sports, especially the Nets and Yankees. I also love video games.
Languages	Haitian Creole, English
Where do you live?	Queens, New York
Where does your family come from?	My dad moved here from Haiti and my mom was born here. My mom's family is from Jamaica, but they have lived in New York forever.
High point	Making honor roll.
Low point	Watching the Yankees have a sad season.
Are you an American?	Yes, I'm a U.S. citizen because I was born in New York. My mom is a citizen, too, but my dad is not. That's pretty common where I live.





Name	Conor Dolan
Likes	Listening to rap music and playing sports. I play Irish football here in a youth league. It's a bit like soccer but you can also pick up the ball. Our county team back home in Kerry is really good.
Languages	English. I also learned some Irish in school.
Where do you live?	Canton, Massachusetts
Where does your family come from?	My family moved to the U.S. from Ireland in 2010. We used to live in an area called Kerry in Ireland. We had family in Boston already but moving here was hard.
High point	Finding an Irish football team to play on right here in Canton.
Low point	Having trouble fitting in. Kids laughed at the words I use, like 'trainers' or 'runners' for sneakers.
Are you an American?	Not yet. My little sister is an American citizen because she was born in the U.S. My parents have applied for green cards that will let us stay here. I'm not sure if I want to live here or in Ireland later.

Who gets to be an American? continued

Name	Is this person an American?	Reasons why
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> legal <input type="checkbox"/> personal
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> legal <input type="checkbox"/> personal
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> legal <input type="checkbox"/> personal
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> legal <input type="checkbox"/> personal
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> legal <input type="checkbox"/> personal