

## The American Dream

1 Everyone has dreamed of a better life, not only for themselves but for their children.  
2 Many people have made the difficult choice to leave their home country and move to  
3 America.

4 For 200 years people from across the world have come to America. Each person has  
5 had a very different life story. Around the world, there are many people that work 18  
6 hours a day just to make enough money to survive. For these people, the American  
7 dream means an easier life and a better education for them and their children. Other  
8 people think differently. The American dream is the idea of making a lot of money  
9 without working hard, like winning the lottery or the jackpot at a casino.

10 What exactly is the American dream? Is it making enough money to buy a nice house?  
11 Or is it to give your kids a fantastic education? Many Americans have 2 or more jobs in  
12 order to support their families. They do not have the opportunity to earn enough  
13 money to do everything, or do they?

14 Many Americans are now using the internet to live the American dream. The best part  
15 about this is that now you can live the American dream without being in America or  
16 being an American. The internet has opened new doors for people. It has given people  
17 motivation to be successful. With only a small amount of money, anyone can create  
18 their own webpage or app that could be the next big thing. It sounds easy but in  
19 reality, it is very difficult. The internet is the American dream because the American  
20 dream is an equal opportunity for all.

21 The American dream is similar to playing cards. You can't choose what cards you are  
22 given but you can choose what you do with them. Some people don't use their cards  
23 well and others achieve all of their dreams.



### Comprehension Questions

1. For how many years have people come to the USA?
2. The American dream is about winning money quickly. True/False.
3. You have to be American to live the America dream. True/False.
4. Why do people want the America dream?
5. Can someone with 2 jobs achieve the American dream?
6. You need a lot of money to make an app. True/False. How difficult is it?
7. Why is the American dream like playing cards?

### Writing Task

You are an American immigrant. Today you just completed your citizenship test and are officially an American. Describe your life. Include details about good and bad times, problems you had and things you achieved.

Write a short letter (150 words) describing your life and your hopes for the future.

### Gap Fill

For 200 years people from ..... the world have come to America. Each person has had a very different life story. Around the world, there are many people that work 18 hours a day just to make enough money to ..... For these people, the American ..... means an easier life and a better education for them and their children. Other people think differently. The American dream is the idea of making a lot of money without working hard, like winning the ..... or the jackpot at a casino.

What exactly is the American dream? Is it making enough money to buy a nice house? Or is it to give your kids a fantastic education? Many Americans have 2 or more jobs in order to ..... their families. They do not have the opportunity to ..... enough money to do everything, or do they?

The American dream is ..... to playing cards. You can't choose what cards you are given but you can choose what you do with them. Some people don't use their cards well and others ..... all of their dreams.



Vocabulary	Definition / Example / Translation



To dream .....	To survive .....	Lottery .....
Jackpot .....	To support .....	Motivation .....
Successful .....	Equal .....	Opportunity .....
Cards .....	To achieve .....	To sound (seem) .....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
Talk about... Your dreams	Talk about... The last time you played cards	Talk about... Your definition of successful
Talk about... The last time you learned something	Talk about... How to motivate yourself	Talk about... What you would buy if you won the lottery



### Speaking Task – Role-play

#### Role 1

You are very good at giving advice. A friend of yours wants advice. They don't know what to do in life.

#### Checklist:

- Listen to the goals and life story of your friend. Take notes.
- Ask them for more details.
- Give them advice for each goal.
- Give your friend support.

You must use the following words: support, motivation and successful.

#### Role 2

You are a young person with many dreams and goals. However, you don't know what to do or how to do it. Your friend gives great advice. Before you start, think about the story of your life until now (you can invent it).

#### Checklist:

- Tell your friend your life story.
- Tell them your goals.
- Listen to their advice.
- Make a plan to achieve your goals

You must use the following words: achieve, dream and opportunity.

### Debate Topics

- More money equals more problems.
- America is the best country in the world.

#### Discussion Topic

- Different ways to support your family

#### Discussion Topic

- Playing the lottery/ going to casinos

#### Discussion Topic

- How do dreams change as you get older?

#### Discussion Topic

- How can you achieve your dreams?



### Answers

1. For how many years have people come to the USA? **For 200 years people have come to the USA.**
2. The American dream is about winning money quickly. True/False. **False. The American dream is different for everyone. For some people, it means making money quickly but for others, it is not.**
3. You have to be American to live the America dream. True/False. **False. The internet has opened a world of opportunities for people.**
4. Why do people want the America dream? **It means an easier life, a better education for their children and a higher standard of living.**
5. Can someone with 2 jobs achieve the American dream? **Yes. Many people have two jobs.**
6. You need a lot of money to make an app. True/False. How difficult is it? **False, you only need a small amount of money. It is very difficult.**
7. Why is the American dream like playing cards? **You can't choose how you start life but you can work hard to change it and achieve what you want.**

### Gap Fill

For 200 years people from **across** the world have come to America. Each person has had a very different life story. Around the world, there are many people that work 18 hours a day just to make enough money to **survive**. For these people, the American **dream** means an easier life and a better education for them and their children. Other people think differently. The American dream is the idea of making a lot of money without working hard, like winning the **lottery** or the jackpot at a casino.

What exactly is the American dream? Is it making enough money to buy a nice house? Or is it to give your kids a fantastic education? Many Americans have 2 or more jobs in order to **support** their families. They do not have the opportunity to **earn** enough money to do everything, or do they?

The American dream is **similar** to playing cards. You can't choose what cards you are given but you can choose what you do with them. Some people don't use their cards well and others **achieve** all of their dreams.

