

Worksheet #3: Americans

(Adapted from the Peace Corps publications *Culture Matters* and *Insights From the Field*. You can find the full texts of these publications at www.peacecorps.gov/wvs/publications/.)

Part 1: Working with a partner, read each of the seven comments below that a non-American might make about an American. For each of the comments, give a good reason, in writing, for why you think this comment might be true for all Americans, true for some Americans, or true for no Americans.

1. Americans are always in such a hurry to get things done!
2. Americans insist on treating everyone the same.
3. Americans always have to say what they're thinking!
4. Americans always want to change things.
5. Americans don't show very much respect for their elders.
6. Americans always think things are going to get better. They are so optimistic!
7. Americans are so impatient!

Part 2: Now, looking at one of the comments above, answer the following questions:

- How would you feel if this statement were made about you?
- What would be a polite response if someone said it to you?