

America, India, Poland, China, England, Norway, Denmark, Vietnam, Ireland, Japan, Brazil, France, Korea.

-an	-ian	-ish	-ch	-ese
...	...	...	...	...

**Note:** the Netherlands – Dutch

**b) Work in pairs. What do you know about people of the nationalities from ex. 3a? Make up sentences about them or their lifestyle. Compare your ideas with other pairs. Do you agree with them?**

**4. What is the difference between a *melting pot* or a *salad bowl*? In your view, which model of a multicultural society is better? Why do you think so?**

**5. Role-play an interview between a travelling blogger and an American citizen living in a multicultural neighborhood about their life. Use your imagination and the active vocabulary of the lesson. Speak about your family, neighbours, businesses, special days, etc.**

## LESSON 3. American cultural values

**Communicative area:** discussing cultural values of the American society

**Active vocabulary:** equal, equality, (self-)reliance

**Grammar:** word-formation: nouns

**1. a) Read about the *culture iceberg* and decide where the items in the box would fit on the *iceberg*: its visible or invisible part.**

behaviors • values • traditions • beliefs •  
views • customs

In 1976, Edward T. Hall suggested that culture was similar to an iceberg. He proposed that culture has two components and that only about 10% of culture (external or surface culture) is easily visible; the majority, or 90% of culture (internal or deep culture) is hidden below the surface.



**b) What do you know about American values and beliefs?**

**2. a) Read an extract from the book *American Ways: An Introduction to American Culture* and check your ideas in ex. 1b. Name six American values mentioned in the text.**

1. In 1776, the British colonial settlers declared their independence from England and established the United States of America. In 1787, when they wrote the Constitution for their new nation, the early settlers created a climate of freedom. Individual freedom is probably the most basic of all the American values. This word is one of the most respected and popular words in the United States today. By freedom, Americans mean the right of all individuals to live without outside control from the government, the church, or any other organized authority.

2. There is, however, a cost for this benefit of individual freedom: self-reliance. Individuals must learn to rely on themselves. They must take responsibility for themselves. Traditionally, this has meant achieving both financial and emotional independence from their parents as early as possible, usually by the age of eighteen or twenty-one. Self-reliance means that Americans believe they should take care of themselves, solve their own problems, and “stand on their own two feet.”

3. The second reason why immigrants are attracted to the United States is the belief that everyone has a chance to succeed here. It is important to understand what most Americans mean when they say they believe in equality of opportunity. They do not mean that everyone is – or should be – equal



equality

[ˈi:kwəl]. However, they do mean that each individual should have an equal chance for success. Americans see much of life as a race for success. For them, equality means that everyone should have an equal chance to enter the race and win.

4. However, the price to be paid for this equality [ɪˈkwɒləti] of opportunity is competition. If much of life is seen as a race, then a person must run the race in order to succeed; a person has the responsibility to compete with others. The pressure of competition in the life of an American begin in childhood and continues until retirement from work.


5. The third reason why immigrants have traditionally come to the United States is to have a better life – that is, to raise their standard of living. The phrase “going from rags to riches” became a slogan for the “American dream.” Material wealth became a value to the American people. Of course, most immigrants did not “get rich overnight,” and many of them suffered terribly, but the majority of them were finally able to improve upon their former standard of living. Even if they were not able to achieve the economic success they wanted, they knew that their children would have the opportunity for a better life.

6. Americans have paid a price, however, for their material wealth: hard work. The North American continent was rich in natural resources when the first settlers arrived, but all these resources were undeveloped. Only by hard work could these natural resources be turned into material goods, allowing a more comfortable standard of living. Hard work has been both necessary and rewarding for most Americans throughout their history.

**b) Copy the table below. Put the words from the box into 2 categories: verbs and adjectives.**

Verb	Adjective	Noun
...	...	...

Valuable, succeed, believable, depend, rely, responsible, wealthy, respond, reliable, free, value, believe, equal, successful, (in)dependent.

- c) Read the text again and find the nouns to complete the table.
- d)  Work in pairs. Play the *Teach your friend* game with the words from the table above.

Get a set of cards from the teacher. Each card has four pairs of words, e.g. *belief – believable*. There are six possible variants of cards: *verbs – adjectives, verbs – nouns, adjectives – nouns, adjectives – verbs, nouns – adjectives, nouns – verbs*.

You are a *teacher*. Take a card and read the instruction to your partner, e.g. *Derive adjectives from the nouns*. Read the nouns in the left column and your partner derives corresponding adjectives. Help *the student* in case they face difficulties. Swap the roles.



3. a) What is the slogan of *the American dream*? What is its equivalent in your language? Do they have the same associations?
- b) Read the short summary of the text above. Complete it with the words from the box.

equality • belief • freedom • reliance • values •  
opportunity • hard • responsibility • success

The relationship among these 1. ... creates the fabric of the American society. It is this fabric that defines the American dream – the 2. ... that if people take 3. ... for their lives and work 4. ... , they will have the individual 5. ... to achieve their personal goals, and a good opportunity to compete for success. However, American values such as 6. ... of opportunity and self- 7. ... are ideals that are not always put into practice. In reality, some people have a better chance for 8. ... than others. Those who are born into rich families have more opportunities than those who are born into poorer families. Race and gender may still be factors affecting success, although there are laws designed to promote equality of 9. ... for all individuals.

4. a) Work in small groups. Which values mentioned above do you share? Explain your choice.
- b) What are Belarusian cultural values?