Mrs. Pfeifer Name: Period:

US History

Who Are We?

Directions: Your first assignment for US History will require you to do some thinking. It might be rough after the summer, however the responses I am asking for only require knowledge you have gained just by living. The sources you have will come from conversations with friends and adults, Social Media, TV, movies, books, magazines, etc. Think about what you want out of life, your dreams, hopes, values, etc.

Part I: Please answer the questions using complete sentences (paragraph format, no bullet points).

1. What does it mean to be an American today? Explain what you mean and use examples from your world/life to illustrate your point(s).

2. Explain what the American Dream means to you.

3. What changes would you like to see in the United States in the 21st Century? Explain why you would like to see these changes.

Part Two: Watch each video clip and complete the following chart.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Video Clip  | What are defined American values in the video? Make a list…. | What point of view is being represented? |
| The Newsroom: America is Not the greatest country in the world |  |  |
| Bill O’Reily on the American Dream |  |  |
| American Oxygen – Rihanna |  |  |
| Made in America – Toby Keith |  |  |

Which video do you think best represents the American Dream? Why?

Which video did you dislike the most? Why?

Make a list of at least FIVE themes (values) that best represent Who We Are as Americans.