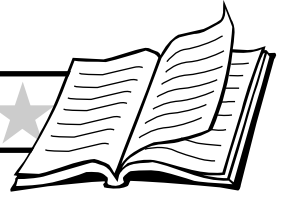


Study Guide



Chapter 1, Section 3

For use with textbook pages 19–23

The Diversity of Americans



KEY TERMS

migration a mass movement of people from one region to another (page 22)

patriotism a love for one's country (page 23)

terrorism the use of violence by groups against civilians to achieve a political goal (page 23)

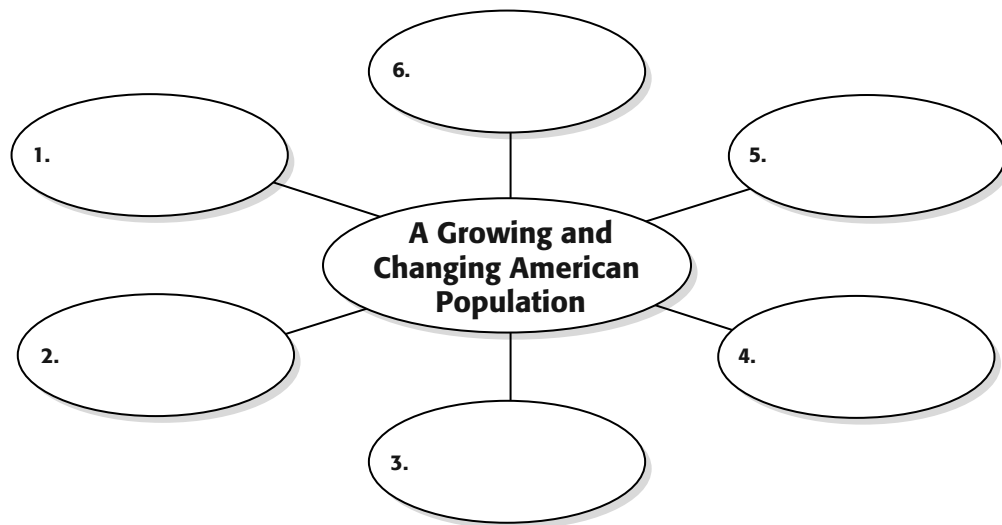
DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Do you think that your school and community are diverse? What places in your community reflect this diversity?

The last section explained how people can become citizens of the United States. This section describes America's diversity and identifies the sources of unity among the American people.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the web diagram below to help you take notes. Describe six ways that America's population has grown and changed.



Study Guide



Chapter 1, Section 3 (continued)

READ TO LEARN

• **A Nation of Immigrants** *(page 19)*

Many diverse citizens make up the population of the United States. They are linked together by shared values and experiences. All people in the United States are descendants of immigrants.

The first Native Americans came to the United States by crossing a “land bridge” that once connected Asia and North America. Before the mid-1900s, most immigrants to the United States came from Europe. The first Europeans came from Spain during the 1500s. They settled in what is now Florida, California, and the Southwest. Starting in the 1600s, people from France and England began arriving in North America. During the late 1600s and the 1700s, people from Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Scotland, and Sweden began arriving.

After the United States gained its independence, the number of immigrants grew from about 600,000 in the 1830s to more than 2 million by the 1850s. More than 10 million Europeans—many from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden—came to the United States between 1860 and 1890. Between 1890 and 1924 about 22 million Europeans came to the United States. Many of these immigrants came from central and eastern Europe. In the past 50 years most immigrants to the United States have come from Latin America and Asia.

Some of the early immigrants who arrived in America did so unwillingly. People from central and western Africa were taken by force and shipped across the Atlantic Ocean. They were then sold as slaves in the Caribbean Islands and in North and South America. About 500,000 enslaved persons were brought into the United States between 1619 and 1808. Most African Americans today are descendants of enslaved persons.

- 7.** Where have most immigrants to the United States come from in the last 50 years?

Study Guide



Chapter 1, Section 3 (continued)

• **A Diverse Population** (page 21)

The American people are diverse in their ethnic backgrounds. They include whites of European descent, African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, and Hispanic Americans. Americans are also diverse in their religions. Christians are in the majority. Other religious groups include Jews, Muslims, and Buddhists. Some Americans do not practice any religion.

8. In what ways are the American people diverse?

• **A Growing and Changing Population** (page 22)

America's population has grown and changed. Part of the growth has been due to immigration. However, the population has also increased naturally. This was a result of Americans having many children.

The American population has changed over the years in many ways. People have moved from rural areas to cities. They started working in factories rather than on farms. More Americans now earn a living by working in service industries rather than in manufacturing industries. More women have joined the workforce and more workers work from home. The places where people live have changed. After the Civil War, many African Americans moved to cities in search of jobs. This resulted in a **migration**, or mass movement, of African Americans from the South to the North. The Northeast used to be the most populated part of the United States. Today, the South is the most populated. The population of the West is growing faster than that of any other region. The average age of Americans is increasing. More Americans than ever are earning college and graduate degrees. Hispanic Americans are the fastest-growing ethnic group.

9. What has caused an increase in America's population?

Study Guide



Chapter 1, Section 3 (continued)

• **Unity Among Citizens** (page 23)

An important source of American unity is a political heritage based on documents, such as the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, including the Bill of Rights. These documents include the ideas of individual rights, government by consent of the people, and majority rule through representatives in government. Although there is majority rule, the Constitution equally protects the rights of everyone.

Another source of unity is the English language. It is the main way of communication in government, education, and business. Although Americans are free to speak any language, they use the English language to communicate with one another.

Americans show their **patriotism**, or love for one's country, in many ways. They fly the flag, sing the national anthem, and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. They stand together in times of trouble. This was especially evident after the September 11, 2001, attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C. These were acts of **terrorism**—the use of violence by groups against civilians to achieve a political goal. Americans responded by joining together to help people in need and backing up their commitment to freedom.

10. How do Americans show their patriotism?
