

Answers document 7

2) c) Underline all the elements that attempt to define the American Dream. Then give your own concise definition of the concept in one or two sentences.

The American Dream is the belief that anyone, regardless of their background, can achieve prosperity and social mobility through hard work and determination. It is rooted in the ideals of freedom, equality and opportunity, and in the hope of achieving a better life for oneself and future generations.

d) What evidence suggests that the American Dream is becoming harder to achieve?

- only a third of Americans believe it still exists
- most Americans think the country's best days are behind it
- fewer immigrants are coming to the US
- some Americans are leaving the country
- fewer young Americans believe in it
- intergenerational economic mobility has declined
- home ownership and job stability have become harder to attain
- inequality has increased

e) What factors explain the decline of the American Dream according to the people interviewed?

Economic	Political / Social
wage stagnation increasing inequality globalisation many financial crises healthcare costs cost of living crisis ⇒ less economic mobility	Polarisation Strict immigration policies Declining confidence among young people

f) Why does the American Dream still appeal to some people?

People living in unstable countries will still be better off in the US, that's why there is still a desire for immigration. Besides, the American Dream is spread through culture (films for example) and reaches a large audience.

g) Has the American Dream always been accessible to everyone? Give examples from the article.

No. The American Dream has not always been accessible to everyone. Minorities have often been excluded from it (l.17-18), and historically, racial, social and economic inequalities have prevented many people from enjoying the same opportunities as others.

If the article specifically mentions slavery, segregation, Native Americans, women, immigrants or discrimination, those would be useful concrete examples to add.