

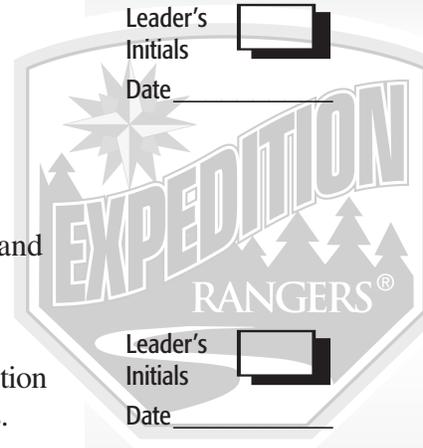


# American Cultures Merit

1. Explain appropriate Christian attitudes toward people of different cultures and ethnicities. Support your answers with Scripture references.
2. Read about one culture in the United States. After completing your study, write a summary of what you studied. Include the following:
  - a. Identify the group, their history, when they came to the United States, and some of the reasons why they came.
  - b. List some social and religious customs of the group.
  - c. Tell some of this group's strengths, including their importance and contribution to the United States. Include any famous individuals and their contributions.
3. Consider the issues of culture and ethnicity in a biblical context by answering the following questions:
  - a. What did Jesus do when He faced ethnic and cultural issues? Provide two examples from Scripture.
  - b. What did Paul write in his letters regarding our Christlike response to ethnic or cultural conflicts?
  - c. List three other Scripture references addressing culture and race.
4. Do ONE of the following:
  - a. Give a presentation in one of your school classes (e.g., history or English) on cultures. Include the following:
    1. Show how understanding people and their cultural diversities can help us relate to people of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.
    2. Explain the saying "Seek to understand rather than to be understood."
    3. Give examples on how people from different groups have gotten along together.
    4. Lead a discussion on what can be done to help various groups understand one another better.
  - b. Give a presentation as described above to your Rangers group.
  - c. Discuss with your Royal Rangers group what is being done in the United States by Christian organizations to bridge gaps and lessen misunderstandings between cultures and ethnicities.
  - d. Share with your Rangers group the contributions made to the United States by three different people, each with a different cultural or ethnic background. Choose individuals not described in Requirement 2.

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5. Write an essay about U.S. cultural concerns. Answer the following in your essay:
- a. List some cultural issues or concerns in the United States. Are there any government or private organizations in place to assist with these issues or concerns?
  - b. Does your community have any ethnic or cultural issues to address? If so, what are they? Are there any government or private organizations in place to assist with these issues or concerns?



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6. Do TWO of the following:
- a. Go to a festival, celebration, or other event of an ethnic group different from your own. Write a report about what you observed and learned from this experience.
  - b. Go to a church that has a predominately different ethnic group than your own. Write your observations and what you learned from this experience.
  - c. Interview a person of a different ethnic group than your own about his or her heritage and traditions. Write a brief description of your interview.
  - d. Learn a song, dance, poem, or story that is traditional to a culture other than your own. Recite or demonstrate this to a Rangers group in your church. Include a copy of the song, poem, or story in your workbook. Include what you learned from this new experience.