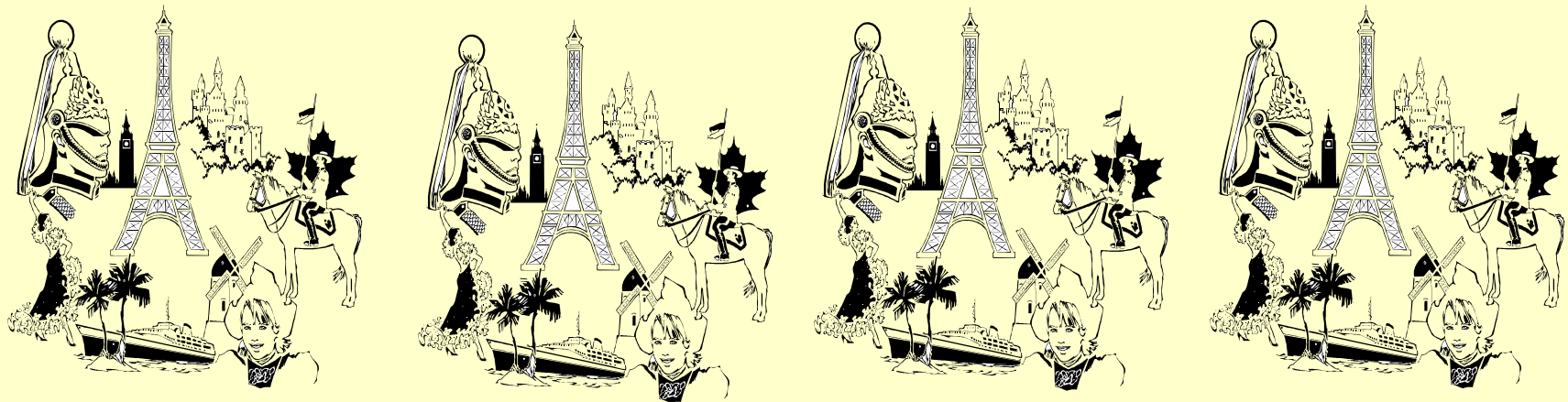


Why do we
study languages?

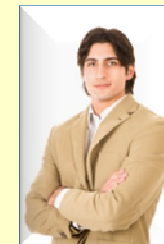


Why do we study languages
such as French that others
may not deem useful?

Why do we have
our exchange program?



What does it mean to be an American?



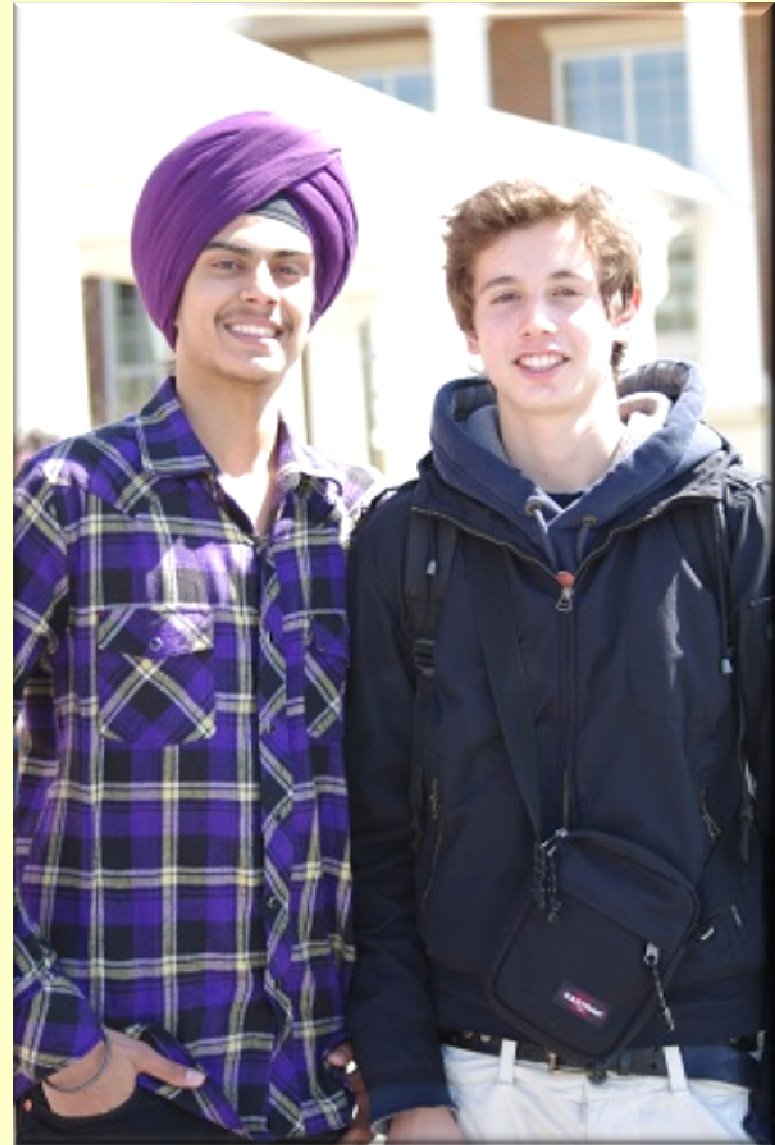
What does it mean to be French?



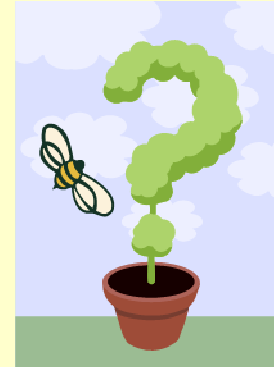
What do we expect
from an exchange?



Which of
these boys
is
American?



A few



questions....



1a. Have you ever been judged based on your looks, your background, or based on what someone thought they knew or heard about you?
Explain.



1b. Is there anything about you/your background that others may or may not know that affects your interactions with people on a daily basis?

Ex: religious restrictions on food
having lost a close friend/relative, etc...



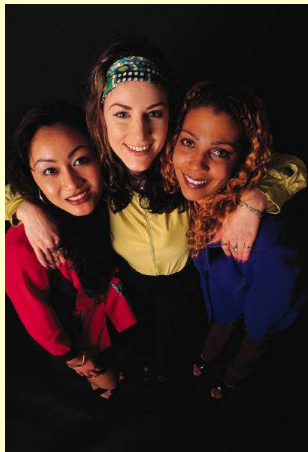
2 . What does it mean to be an American – short answer – what's the first thing you think about when you think of America?



3. How do you think others see us as Americans? The answer can be positive, negative, neutral, or even contradictory.



4. How comfortable do you feel talking about race and religion? very comfortable, slightly uncomfortable, rather not say....



How much has changed in 20 years?

What do you see?

At School?

On the street?

In your neighborhood?

On an airplane?



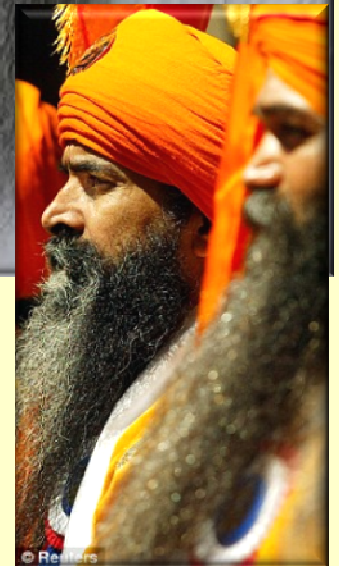
5. What do you see now?

At School?

On the street?

In your neighborhood?

On an airplane?



Education is the key to letting go of fear –

My first thought now is

“Cool...
I wonder if...”



6. Can one be American and hold onto one's roots?

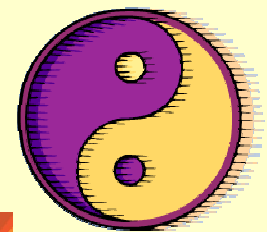
Do you think it's possible or even desirable for people to hold onto their cultural traditions over several generations? Would it be easier / preferable if everyone just blended in?



7. What everyday freedoms do we take for granted in the United States?



"In this country, there is a separation of church and state. Public schools must not advocate one religion or another."



Agree or Disagree?

"In this country, there is a separation of church and state. Public schools must not advocate one religion or another."

"Therefore no student or teacher shall wear any outward sign of his or her religion."

Agree or Disagree?

"In this country, there is a separation of church and state.
Schools should not advocate one religion or another."

"Therefore no student or teacher shall wear
any outward sign of his or her religion."

8. React to the above statement...

Write what you would do / how would you
would react if this became the law here in
the USA.

Part II – Welcome to “My America.”



Roots and Wings



Sept 12, 2009
Hofstra University, NY
Award - Best Children's Film
Guest Speaker



March 2nd, 2009
Award ***Best Student - Educational Category***
[IFFF](#), Hollywood, CA



August 2009
LA, California
Awards - Best 2009 Documentary Film
Most Promising Young Documentarian 2009



Aug 11- 15th 2009,
Barry, U.K.
Nominee - Best Foreign Documentary



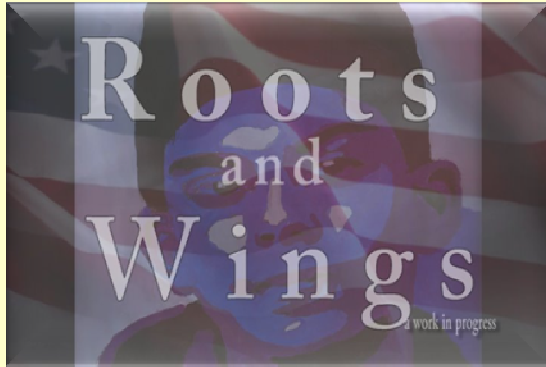
Roots and Wings

What are your thoughts
after seeing this movie?



Roots and Wings

Are we a melting pot or
a salad bowl/mosaic –
what do you think?



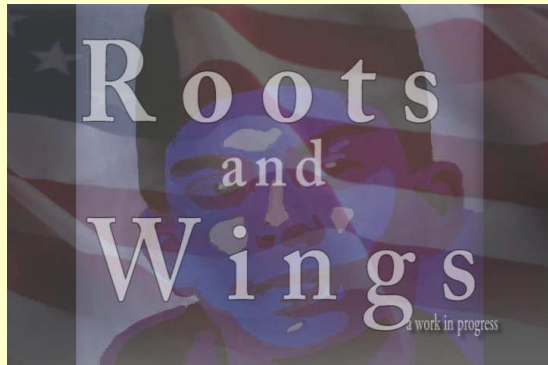
Roots and Wings

were you aware of the extent of “profiling” that takes place when people see someone different? were you aware that there is often very insignificant punishment for bullying against minority groups?



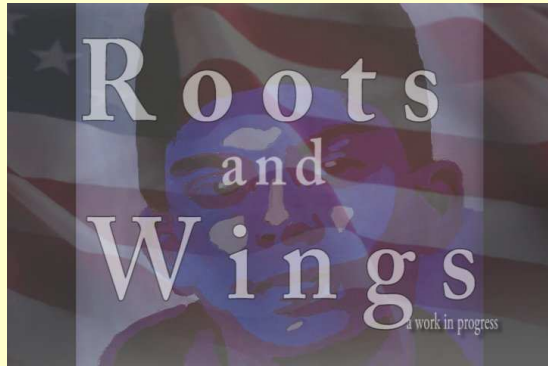
Roots and Wings

We have a history of discrimination in our country – but with every new generation, things seem to improve. How far have we come? What still needs to be improved? How should we go about doing that? What actions should we take? What will YOU do?



Roots and Wings

What can we do to make others
(specifically our exchange
students) aware of / appreciate
the true diversity of America?



Roots and Wings

Are there any parts of the documentary that you want to discuss further?

Letter to the filmmaker

Please write a letter to filmmaker, Angad Singh, reacting to his work. You should indicate what you learned in the documentary, what surprised you, and how it affected you. You should tell him whether or not you would like to see more diversity education in the USA. You may also add any additional comments or reflections, and you may tell him how / if you plan to use what they have learned from him in the future.

Letter to a "French friend" from our sister school in Nantes

After reflecting on the past two days, I would like you to write about an aspect of American life that may be unique to your family. The focus could be religious, racial, ethnic, cultural, or even a lifestyle choice, such as vegetarianism. The idea is for our sister school to receive letters that show a cross-section of the diversity of America and what it means to our Milton students.

You may start: Dear French Friend,

"I hope you had fun in the USA.... This is what I want you to know about 'my' America..."