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## Do You Have What It Takes?

In the Fall, we will begin monthly coverage of the Presidential election. Now, while candidates are deciding whether to run or not, let's consider what Americans see as positive and negative characteristics in a Presidential candidate.

The box on this page shows survey results from the Pew Research Center, in which people were asked which personal and professional experiences they value in a Presidential candidate.

Note that people say that the professional experience they value most is military service: 49% say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has served in the military,

although almost as many say it would not make a difference one way or the other. Having been a state governor or a business executive is valued more highly than having been an elected official in Washington for many years. (In reality, 31 of the 43 Presidents have served in the military, 17 have been state governors and 22 served in Congress. It is difficult to count the number with some kind of business experience; George W. Bush was

the only President with an Masters degree in Business Administration.

Large majorities of participants claim that it would make no difference to them if a

### Candidate Traits: Positives and Negatives

A candidate who is/has/does...	More likely to support	Less likely to support	No difference
	%	%	%
Served in military	49	4	47
Been a governor	37	5	55
Been a business executive	35	14	49
A woman	14	7	77
Black	7	3	89
Been an elected official in Washington for many years	26	25	46
Hispanic	8	11	80
Been divorced	3	11	85
Used marijuana in the past	5	24	69
Mormon	5	25	68
Homosexual	3	33	62
Never held elected office	9	51	38
Had an extramarital affair	2	46	49
Not believe in God	5	61	33

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011 Q49a-n.

Presidential candidate was a woman (77%), Hispanic (80%) or Black (89%). Hm, maybe, but it did seem to be on voters' minds during the Hillary Clinton/Barack Obama candidacies. Let's hope progress has occurred.

Candidates who have never held elected office, have had an extramarital affair or do not believe in God are working up hill.

### Compliments of

### Boston University CELOP Program

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## US Symbols

**Flag.** The 13 red and white stripes on the US flag stand for each of the original 13 colonies. The 50 white stars on the blue field each stand for one state.

**Official Seal.** Notice the seal on a dollar bill. The bald eagle, the official symbol of the US, is holding spears in one claw and an olive branch of peace in the other. There is the unfinished pyramid,

standing for our unfinished work.

That's God's eye watching over the country.

The Latin phrases mean, "From many, one," "God has smiled on our attempt," and "A new order for the ages."



THE GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES



**Pledge of Allegiance.** Here are the words to the Pledge of Allegiance that many American children recite every day in school:

*I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands — one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

If your children feel pressure to recite this pledge, talk with them about respectful ways to remain silent.

**Star-Spangled Banner.** The US may have the most

*continued on page 3*



## The Fourth of July

The most patriotic holiday in the US is Independence Day, or The Fourth of July (celebrated on that date whenever in the week it falls, not as a Monday holiday). Americans remember that day in 1776 when the Declaration of Independence from Britain was adopted. With the passing of time, the US and England have become allies. Today, the holiday is a happy, friendly celebration.

Food, clothes, balloons, hats, and signs are decorated in red, white, and blue. Stars and stripes from the US flag are everywhere. Friends and families gather for picnics. Hamburgers, hot dogs, watermelon, potato chips, and ice cream are the traditional meal. Almost every town — large and small — has a fireworks display after dark. Find where your closest (or largest) fireworks show will be, take a blanket to sit on, and prepare to join the crowd in saying, "oh-h-h-h-h" and "ah-h-h-h-h" after each display.

Gift-giving and cards are not a traditional part of the holiday. Federal, state, and local government offices and many stores and businesses will be closed. Stores that sell hamburger meat, charcoal, and watermelon will stay open!

## Birthday Biography: Willis Haviland Carrier

OK, so Willis Haviland Carrier was born in November (26, 1876), not July or August. But he invented *air conditioning*, and I'm sure I won't feel like writing about the inventor of air conditioning in November. So let's bend a rule and wish him Happy Birthday this summer.

Carrier first explored how much heater surface was needed to heat a particular space when he worked as a mechanical engineer for a company that dried lumber and coffee. His research saved his company \$40,000 and earned Carrier a promotion to be head of his department of experimental engineering. For a lithographing and publishing company, he focused on the problem of how heat and humidity made printing in color very difficult — the paper kept changing in size, ever so slightly, so the colors lined up wrong. Carrier figured out how to control the heat and humidity of their operation, colored inks could be aligned very accurately, and four-color printing became possible. He was awarded a patent for his "apparatus for treating air" in 1906.

Pretty soon, lots of industries were adapting Carrier's methods to control temperature and humidity — film, tobacco, processed meat, drugs, textiles — all these had manufacturing problems that were fixed by "air conditioning." It was not till 1924 that his idea was used explicitly for human comfort. First a department store in Detroit, MI, then movie theaters in New York cooled their spaces and customers flocked to them. By 1928, Carrier's "Weathermaker" was available for use in private homes.

The invention has not been all positive, of course. Energy use sky-rocketed, and there was a social impact, too — people stopped sitting on their porches (and chatting with passing neighbors) to keep cool, but kept to themselves inside. In July/August, I tend to lean toward the positive — not sure what I'll think in November. Happy Birthday, Mr. Carrier.

# Web Sites of the Month: Air Travel

**www.flightarrivals.com**, **www.flightview.com** or **flightaware.com/live** (expected arrival and departure times of all flights over the US and Canada, within a 6-hour period; information on delays and schedule changes)

**www.sta.com** or **www.studentuniverse.com** (If you are a student — or in the case of [www.sta.com](http://www.sta.com), a teacher — get good deals on air, rail, and hotels or hostels.)

**www.businesstravel.about.com** (tips and articles for those who travel on business — which airlines have free wifi, food, upgrades, frequent traveler points, and more)

**www.travel-watch.com/airphones.htm** (has all the airlines' telephone numbers in one place)

**www.flightstats.com** (extensive statistics on on-time arrivals (by airline and airport), airline delays and cancellations all over the world)

Do you have almost — but not quite — enough **Frequent Flyer** miles for a free trip? Check your airline's website for information about how to buy the extras you need.

**www.seatguru.com** (Click on your airline and type of plane to see a map of and comments about every seat on a plane.)

**www.airsafe.com** (for the nervous flier — or maybe not; information on recent plane crashes and other accidents; airport security information; airline complaints...and tips for overcoming a fear of flying)

**www.kayak.com** (This airline reservation site scans prices from each airline and from various travel search engines (like [expedia](http://expedia.com) and [orbitz](http://orbitz.com)), then allows you to select a variety of criteria in your search (like departure and arrival times, airlines, number of stops, layover times, price). As each of these crite-

ria is selected, the results regroup, making comparisons easy. Choose the flight and vendor you like best and click through to order directly from them. Or, take what you have learned and buy directly from the airline.)

**www.farecompare.com/travel-advice/tips-from-air-travel-insiders** (lots of money-saving tips, including which are the cheapest days to fly — Wednesdays, Tuesdays and Saturdays)

**www.tsa.gov/travelers/index.shtm** (the US government's Transportation Security Administration's site; where to go if you have any questions about what you can take on the airplane or how you will be searched; click on the "Religious and Cultural Needs" link, for example)

**www.yapta.com** (Many US airlines change the price on flights, depending on how likely they think they are to sell the seats. Prices can vary even within a single day. Here, you can watch air fare prices as they go up and down, so you can buy at the lowest price. Use [yapta](http://yapta.com) two ways:

- ♦ Enter flight information about flights you are considering. It will show you current prices every time you sign on, and you can buy when the price seems low to you.
- ♦ Or, buy a ticket and enter your flight information and the price you paid. Every day it will tell you what the current price for that flight is. If the price goes up, you will feel very happy. If the price goes down, you can request a refund (or voucher for future flights) from the airline — it is a well-kept secret that airlines all offer such refunds to customers. In beta testing, 34% of purchased fares were eligible for a refund — at an average size of 16% of the purchase price (\$85).

*continued from page 2*

unsingable national anthem in the world. You need a huge range to sing it properly. Plus a good memory. It was written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key who was inspired by the sight of a 30 x 34-foot American flag flying at Fort McHenry, proving that the British had not captured Baltimore in the War of 1812. Here are the words (to the first verse — there are three more!!):

*Oh, say can you see  
By the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed  
At the twilight's last gleaming?*

*Whose broad stripes and  
bright stars,  
Through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched,  
Were so gallantly streaming?*

*And the rockets' red glare,  
The bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night  
That our flag was still there.*

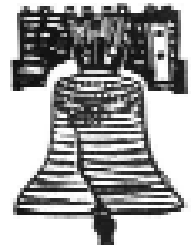
*O say, does that Star-spangled  
Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free  
And the home of the brave?*

**Liberty Bell.** This large bell was rung in 1776 in Philadelphia after independence from England was declared. However, the bell wasn't named the Liberty Bell until 1839 —

in reference to freedom for slaves.

The Liberty

Bell is often shown with a large crack. The bell has cracked often in its history — try not to think about the symbolism of that (or maybe, think about the fragility of liberty...).



## Guns and Privacy

Because of the role of the militia in the American Revolution, the writers of the US Constitution carefully protected the right of citizens to have guns. The 2nd Amendment to the US Constitution (made in 1791) protects this right. Here is the entire 2nd Amendment:

*A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.*

No law that goes against the Constitution is allowed, so neither the US government nor any state may pass a law that makes owning a gun illegal.

But, you might say, the American Revolution seems safely in the past. Why does the US still protect this right to own guns? Some Americans continue to worry that the federal government is, or may become, too strong. So, they say, people must be allowed to have guns to protect themselves from the government.

In addition, some people use rifles for hunting and other sports. Others own guns because they are afraid of criminals having them — presumably if criminals did not have guns, this group of people would not want them either.

This is a social issue with a deep history, fueled by conviction, emotions, and a lot of money. And now it is intertwined

## The American Revolution (Briefly)

You need to know something about the American Revolution to understand America's gun laws, attitudes toward government, and, of course, its Fourth of July celebration. Here are the basics:

- During the Seven Years' War (1754-1763), Britain gained control of the North American colonies, taking power away from France and Spain. Britain now had a huge war debt. It taxed the colonies in North America to help pay for the war.

- These new taxes uncovered a deep philosophical difference between Britain and the colonies about government. The British leaders believed that its Parliament represented all English subjects, even if they lived in North America, and even if they could not vote. (In the mid-1700s, only one man in England out of 30 could vote — it was a privilege of the rich.) People living in North America did not feel represented by Parliament. They believed that people elected to a government should represent those specific voters who had elected them, not simply the country as a whole.

- Under the Stamp Act, Britain required North American colonists to put a tax stamp on all printed materials, including newspapers, wills, loans, and even playing cards. In addition, the Tea Act charged a tax on tea, and included laws that favored the East India Company. (This company was important to Britain's economy and to many British politicians.) Colonists objected to this *taxation without representation* (being forced to pay taxes by a group for whom they could not vote). In Boston in 1773, a group of colonists decided to show their feelings about the Tea Act. They threw 342 chests of tea (worth about £10,000) from a

British ship into the Boston harbor rather than pay the tax. Today, we call this the Boston Tea Party.



- A major change happened in the thinking of the colonists as a result of these taxes and laws. Although most colonists still did not favor independence in 1773, the seeds of a new nationalism were planted.

- On April 19, 1775, British soldiers in Massachusetts

marched from Boston to Lexington and Concord to take the colonists' guns. William Dawes and Paul Revere rode by horseback to warn the colonists. The legend says they shouted "The British are coming!" but this is probably not true. Dawes, Revere, and all the other colonists still considered themselves British; they more likely shouted "The regulars are coming!" The British *regulars* (professional soldiers) met the colonists' *militia*, called the Minutemen (farmers and merchants who were prepared to fight in a minute).

- In the picture on this page, notice the Minuteman's gun in one hand and the farm tool by his side. Every child in the US learns the story of these farmers and shop owners, fighting the highly skilled British soldiers. They could not have done so if they did not have their own guns. Our gun laws today are rooted in this history. The memory of the Minuteman as an ordinary citizen fighting a far-away government is also alive today among a small group of Americans who reject the government and resist it.

- In January 1776, Thomas Paine published a pamphlet called *Common Sense*. He rejected the idea that the colonies needed

# Who Should Decide?

How fast should you drive on a highway? Should motorcyclists be required to wear a helmet? At what age (and on what day of the week) should people be able to buy a bottle of gin? Who should be allowed to own a gun? To have an abortion? Who should decide where you can smoke a cigarette or eat trans fats?

These are all questions about personal behavior. And they have all been the focus of public debate about the amount of control our government should have. Should the government be allowed to decide what is “best” for people? Or should that be a private decision?

This debate has its roots in the discussions that led to the American Revolution (see page 4). By the early-1700s, the colonists had gotten used to a fairly low level of involvement from the British government. When the king then required the colonists to pay several high taxes (like on tea), they were especially resentful.

A group of British writers, the Real Whigs, were very popular in the colonies at this

time. The Real Whigs warned of the dangers of political power; they stressed that political leaders become dishonest if people do not watch them carefully. The colonists who designed the new American government were influenced by these ideas. They based the Constitution on the belief that government should play as small a role in personal behavior as possible.

Since September 11, 2001, the US government has adopted several laws that increase its control and involvement in people’s personal lives, in its efforts to fight terrorism. There are new questions to add to our list, like: Under what conditions should the government be allowed to know what books someone has checked out from the library or what web sites they have looked at? Who should have to tell the government when they move to a new home? When may the government listen to citizens’ telephone conversations? These questions have been controversial because of the long-standing, core belief that government should be slow to be involved in personal lives.

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*continued from page 4*

## *THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (BRIEFLY)*

Britain. And he strongly supported an independent America. Within three months, 120,000 copies of *Common Sense* were sold. By late spring 1776, independence seemed possible and necessary.

- In the meantime, many war-related and government decisions were being made in Philadelphia by a group of political leaders from all 13 colonies. On July 4, 1776, this group adopted the Declaration of Independence, written mostly by Thomas Jefferson. The *preamble* (introduction) to this Declaration is one of the most important statements of the U.S. philosophy of government (see page 2).
- France became an ally of the colonists during the Revolutionary War. It sent soldiers, ships, guns, clothes, and blankets. And it fought the British outside the colonies, making the British strength in the colonies weaker.
- The British Parliament voted to stop fighting in 1781. However, fighting did not completely stop until the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1783.

ing with another deeply-held social value in the US, the commitment to privacy from government interference.

In June, Florida became the first state to limit the ability of medical doctors to ask their patients if they own a gun. Several other states are currently considering a similar law.

Those who favor Florida’s law argue that gun ownership is not a matter of public health and therefore should not be the concern of medical doctors. A National Rifle Association spokesperson said, “For a doctor to be able to do his or her job, they don’t need to know whether a person owns a firearm or not...This is a privacy issue.” The NRA offers its own gun safety education program.

Doctors groups disagree. Doctors regularly ask about other health and safety aspects of families’ homes — where to keep toxic cleaners, how to safeguard a swimming pool, the importance of wearing bicycle helmets, etc. They point to statistics from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — in Massachusetts, for example, twice as many children (138) were killed last year by guns than while riding in a motor vehicle.

The 1st Amendment to the US Constitution protects freedom of speech. We’ve got a conflict between 1st and 2nd Amendment rights going on here...

## Extra ice, please

Recently in Europe, I heard an American say, "I can hardly wait to get back home to a nice cold Coke with plenty of ice."

My European friend replied, "No! I hate ice in my drink! It dilutes the drink. I get mostly ice and not enough drink. It's too cold on my teeth. And it interferes with the flavor by eliminating the aroma."

It makes one think about:

- ♦ the history of refrigeration in different countries,
- ♦ why Americans have such big refrigerators
- ♦ how refrigerators and freezers affect Americans' shopping practices,
- ♦ the way the automobile and women's rights influenced how daily tasks get done,
- ♦ the aggressive marketing strategies of the soft drink industry,
- ♦ whether ice-cold drinks actually do lose flavor, or if it's just a matter of preference, and
- ♦ Americans' attitudes toward energy usage.

To my European friend: Don't worry, you can always just say to the waiter, "I would like a Coke please, with no ice."

# The Culture of Dumping

by Hyeyoung Yoon

(Here is an excerpt from *In Their Own Voice: Intercultural Meaning in Everyday Stories*, published by The Interchange Institute (which also publishes this newsletter). The book is a collection of 60 stories of everyday life in the US, written by newcomers reflecting on the cultural differences and intercultural experiences they have observed. To read the other wonderful stories, order the book now at [www.interchangeinstitute.org](http://www.interchangeinstitute.org).)

*Garbage has always been a problem in Korea. With its narrow land and its ever-growing population, the Korean government has tried to solve this problem by making key decisions to help.*

*The Korean government decided somewhat expensively to sell specific plastic bags for garbage (except for recyclable things) that were labeled with the city's name. If people were caught using other bags for garbage to put at the dumping ground, they had to pay a fine. We pay for garbage collection depending on the number and size of bags. This system helps people reduce their amount of garbage. The government also asked the supermarkets to charge their customers for the bags they used to pack bought goods. This discouraged the use of new plastic bags and encouraged the reuse of plastic bags, which can be pollutants.*

*I remember my first trip to the supermarket in the United States. I was shocked to find the worker packing my food with such a large number of plastic bags. I was worried that I would actually have to pay more for them because I was so used to paying for them in Korea. I also was surprised by the large quantity, as well as the various types, of disposable goods that were in great abundance in the American supermarkets (for example, paper cups and plates, and zip-lock bags). In Korea, the government has discouraged the use of such products*

*because the materials they were made out of include plastic or foam, all of which are hard to dispose of.*

*America as a whole is interested in recycling. For example, several hotels here send out recommendations to their customers asking them to reuse their bed sheets so that hotels could contribute to the reduction of water pollution. By seeing this happen, I realized that the difference between Korea and America is that recycling in America is voluntary, while in Korea it is enforced in a more direct and forceful fashion. For the time being, this was necessary in Korea because the garbage problem had gotten so bad. Korean lack of land makes it hard to find the proper place to dump garbage. In spite of this difference of natural resources, it's natural that both Korea and America need to contribute as a whole to the effort of keeping natural.*

**My intercultural comment:** The global nature of the importance of energy conservation and pollution control is becoming clear to Americans. Since Hyeyoung wrote this story, the community where she lived in the US has started to consider the kinds of trash pickup system she described in Korea, and re-usable grocery bags have become very popular. Still, the US has a long way to go in institutionalizing change.

Another cultural obstacle to environmental change in the US is American's tendency to prefer having personal choice in how they lead their lives, resisting centralized governmental control whenever possible. Regulations that require people to dispose of trash in a certain way or that prohibit paper and plastic cups run counter to this sense of individual freedom.

# 10 Ways to Stay Cool

Many newcomers to the US are not used to the heat and humidity they find here. Here are some tips for staying cool.

## If you have an air conditioner:

- Help your wallet and the environment by helping your air conditioner run efficiently. Keep the filter and coils clean. Place window air conditioners in a shady window, if possible. Use the “low cool” rather than “high cool” setting. You will use much less energy and may not feel the difference.

- Keep your eye on the outside temperature. When it drops below your room temperature, turn off the air conditioner and open the windows.

## If you have a fan:

- When the outside temperature in the shade is higher than the temperature in your home, leave the windows (and curtains and shades) *closed*. Use a fan to move the air around, and to increase the cooling effect of your perspiration evaporating. Try putting a large block of ice (not ice cubes) in a plastic or metal box (like a picnic cooler). Set a fan, at low speed, directly over the box. You will like the cool air.

- Be especially careful of how much sun comes in your east- and west-facing windows. Keep the shades down on your east-facing windows in the morning and west-facing ones in the afternoon.

- When the outside temperature drops, open the windows and use the fan to move the cooler air inside. Open two windows on opposite sides of a room or floor. Place a fan in the window further from where you will be sleeping or sitting. If possible, use a fan that fills the open space of the open

window. Turn the fan so it is blowing *out*. This sounds backwards, but it really works. The fan will pull [cool] air from outside the other window into the room, and across your body.

## Dress and bathe carefully:

- The coolest clothing is light-colored, light-weight, loose clothing made of material that allows perspiration to evaporate. It is tempting to wear as little as possible; however, it is actually helpful to cover your

body as much as possible when outside, as protection against the sun’s direct heat.

- Take a quick shower rather than a hot bath, to keep the bathroom cool. Start the shower as cool

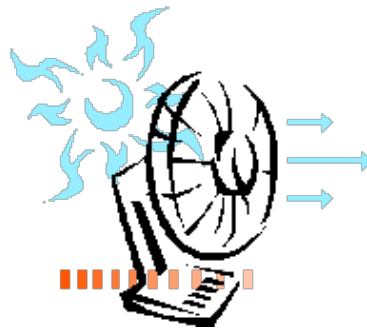
as you can stand it. Once you are wet, slowly make the water even colder. Cool water over your hair and head will be deeply refreshing.

## And more:

- Stay in good physical shape yourself. One research study showed that physically fit people manage heat better — their arteries near the skin surface dilate more easily, they perspire sooner and longer (which is cooling), and their body temperature rises more slowly.

- Cook as little as possible, or cook at night when it is cooler. Use a microwave oven or toaster oven, as they will keep your kitchen cooler than a regular oven.

- It is tempting to open the refrigerator or freezer and enjoy the coldness coming out. But the extra energy needed to run the refrigerator for those moments actually heats up the room more. Resist temptation!



## Per Capita Energy Use

US Virgin Islands	2138.2
Gibraltar	2048.9
Qatar	1144.7
Netherlands Antilles	743.7
Bahrain	735.8
Trinidad & Tobago	670.7
Iceland	663.6
United Arab Emirates	633.6
Singapore	503.5
Brunei	487.0
Kuwait	461.0
Canada	417.6
Norway	414.4
Luxembourg	413.1
<b>United States</b>	<b>337.1</b>
Australia	295.1
Saudi Arabia	266.9
Belgium	262.5
Finland	254.0
Sweden	249.3
Netherlands	245.7
Bahamas, The	226.3
Russia	214.7
New Zealand	214.5
Taiwan	207.6
Korea, South	199.9
Turkmenistan	192.9
Estonia	191.3
Austria	183.8
Oman	179.0
New Caledonia	178.2
Japan	176.4
France	175.9
Germany	171.9
Ireland	171.6
Switzerland	165.8
Spain	164.8
Seychelles	164.3
Hong Kong	161.7
Guam	161.0
Denmark	160.1
Czech Republic	158.5
United Kingdom	155.7
Greenland	150.0
Slovakia	146.0
Bermuda	140.8
Italy	137.0
Greece	136.9
Ukraine	136.3
Venezuela	129.5
Libya	126.2
Puerto Rico	125.9
Israel	124.8
Cyprus	122.8
Iran	121.0
Bulgaria	113.0
Hungary	112.0
South Africa	111.4
Lithuania	106.3
Portugal	103.0
Malta	102.1
Poland	101.5
Croatia	97.8
Malaysia	97.1
Uzbekistan	82.0
China	58.9
India	17.0

million British thermal units  
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, International Energy Statistics

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Newcomer's Almanac is published monthly by The Interchange Institute, for people who have recently moved to the United States. Its goal is to promote international understanding by providing information about the American holidays, customs, values, social issues, and language that often confuse and surprise newcomers. It is written by Anne P. Copeland, PhD, who is a clinical psychologist and the Director of The Interchange Institute. She is an American and has lived and worked overseas with her family.

The Interchange Institute is a not-for-profit organization that studies the impact of intercultural transitions on individuals, their families, and the organizations for which they work. From the results of this research, the Institute offers seminars and workshops, produces publications, and provides consultative services to the international newcomers, their organizations, and to host communities, recognizing that change and insight on both sides facilitates smooth transition.

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## That Crazy English: Surprise!

Here are some idioms to express surprise:

The company president announced he would lay off 10% of us. What a *bombshell!* (*..What an big and unpleasant surprise!*)

When she announced she was getting married, her old boyfriend didn't *bat an eyelid.*  
(or ... didn't *bat an eye*) (*...didn't show any surprise at all.*)

You *caught me off guard* with that question; please give me a minute to think about my answer. (*You surprised me with that question and I am not prepared to answer it...*)

I never realized how many hours you had been spending preparing for each lesson; this is a *real eye-opener.* (*...this is surprising information that makes me re-think my opinion.*)

My father would *turn in his grave* if he knew how we had re-modeled the home he built with his own hands. (*My [deceased] father would be really upset if he knew...*)

I have never seen you so dressed up; you *take my breath away!* (*...I am surprised and delighted at how wonderful you look!*)

The tax bill is a *bolt from the blue.* (*...is a total surprise.*)



## VOCABULARY

Each of these verbs or verb phrases is used in *The American Revolution (Briefly)* on page 4 and 5. Use them to replace the underlined words in the sentences below (use the correct tense). Some items have more than one good answer.

gain control  
tax  
represent  
elect

object to  
favor  
march  
notice

reject  
resist  
adopt  
support

require

1. Be sure to look at \_\_\_\_\_ the story about us in the newspaper.
2. John got into a winning position \_\_\_\_\_ of the tennis game when he started hitting to her backhand.
3. She was chosen by a vote \_\_\_\_\_ to be president of the club.
4. Are you sure you want to take as your own \_\_\_\_\_ that position?
5. The state government has decided to collect money from \_\_\_\_\_ those who use the highways.
6. The ball players walked in a formal line \_\_\_\_\_ onto the field.
7. I don't feel my interests are considered \_\_\_\_\_ by that senator.
8. The boys did not want to obey \_\_\_\_\_ the teacher's suggestion.
9. The children said "no" to \_\_\_\_\_ the plan for a beach party.
10. That law benefits \_\_\_\_\_ people who live close to the city.
11. Her parents have always encouraged \_\_\_\_\_ her efforts.
12. If you disagree with \_\_\_\_\_ the way I have organized the meeting, then next time you can organize it.
13. The law makes it necessary for \_\_\_\_\_ judges to give a 5-year sentence.

## HOMEWORK

## WITH A PEN

1. Read *US Symbols* on page 2 and 3. Write a description of your home country's flag and its symbols. Write an English translation of your national anthem. Describe any other symbols of your home country that are found on your money or on public documents.

2. Read *The American Revolution (Briefly)* on pages 4 and 5. Pick one important event in your home country's history and write an English description of it, in no more than 100 words.

3. Read *Guns and Privacy* on pages 4 and 5. Write a letter to a US Congress member saying how you, as an international newcomer, feel about the current gun laws in this country.

4. Read *That Crazy English* on page 8. Write five sentences expressing surprise about something you have observed in the US, using a different idiom in each sentence.

## UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

Read *Do You Have What It Takes?* on page 1. Mark each statement below as True (T) or False (F) and make corrections to each false statement so that it becomes true.

- |                                                                                                     |          |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| 1. Having served in Congress is seen as the most important experience for a Presidential candidate. | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 2. Most people say it would not affect their vote if a Presidential candidate has been divorced.    | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 3. Very few Presidents have actually served in the military.                                        | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 4. Most US Presidents have had some kind of business education.                                     | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |
| 5. The most dis-qualifying characteristic for a Presidential candidate is not believing in God.     | <b>T</b> | <b>F</b> |

## GRAMMAR: IMPERATIVES

Read *10 Ways to Stay Cool* on page 7. Many of the sentences in this article use the imperative. Imperatives are used to command, request, give directions, warn, offer, or advise. The affirmative imperative of a verb is its simple form (for example, Use a fan...). To make a negative, add "Do not" or "Don't" to the simple form (Do not use a fan...). Add "Please" at the beginning or end of the sentence to soften it.

1. Write a list of all the imperatives used in this article. (I count 25!)

Help your wallet... \_\_\_\_\_

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

2. Write sentences using the negative form of five of these imperatives.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

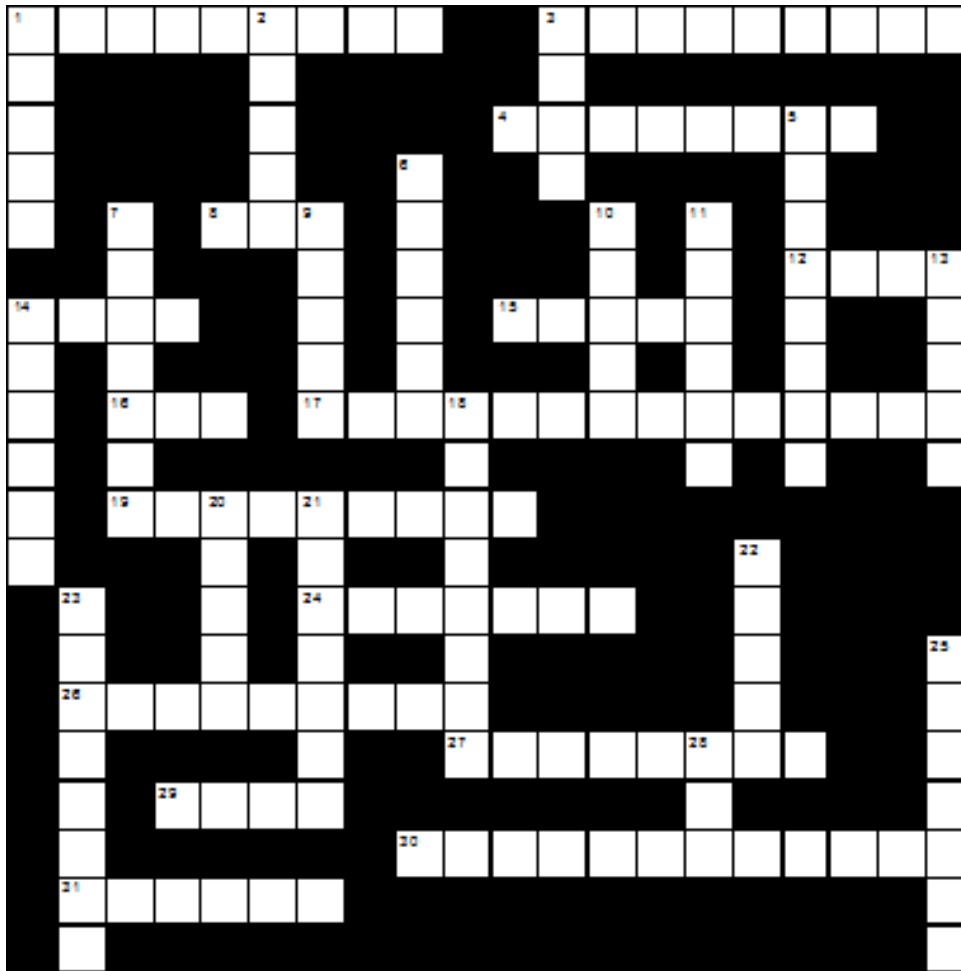
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Write sentences adding *Please* to three of these imperatives.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Across**

1. one of the cheapest days to fly on an airplane
3. a big, horrible surprise
4. moistness in the air
8. The US national anthem was written by Francis Scott \_\_\_\_.
12. guns
14. a \_\_\_\_ from the blue, a sudden surprise
15. George Washington would turn in his \_\_\_\_ if he heard some of today's debates.
16. The English king put a tax on this, so the colonists dumped a lot of it into the sea in protest.
17. If the temperature outside is cooler than inside, turn off your \_\_\_\_\_. (two words)
19. addition or revision
24. He invented air conditioning.
26. Watch these on the Fourth of July.
27. Transportation \_\_\_\_ Administration regulates airport safety.
29. The British soldiers were marching to Lexington and Concord to take away the colonists' \_\_\_\_\_.
30. The Liberty Bell was rung in this city after independence from England was declared.
31. the English king in 1776

**Down**

1. A survey suggests that voters don't care if a Presidential candidate is a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The 50 white stars of the US flag each stand for one \_\_\_\_\_.
3. On Independence Day, watch for food to be red, white and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Colonists objected to "\_\_\_\_ without representation."
6. an eye-\_\_\_\_, a surprise
7. group of citizens who fight in a war but who are not in a professional army
9. a site that will watch air fare prices for you
10. to be caught off \_\_\_\_\_, to be surprised
11. If your \_\_\_\_\_ is taken away, you are very happy and surprised.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ and stripes are a sign of a patriotic holiday in the US.
14. another word for flag, like the star-spangled one
18. More Presidents have served in \_\_\_\_\_ than as governors.
20. symbolic bird of the US
21. In Florida, \_\_\_\_\_ can not ask about whether someone owns a gun.
22. The coolest clothing is \_\_\_\_\_ in color.
23. go against rules or rights
25. Some think gun ownership raises issues of \_\_\_\_\_ from government interference.
28. Some think this ruins the taste of a drink.

**OUT AND ABOUT**

1. Read *US Symbols* on pages 2-3. During the week before the Fourth of July, make a list of all the red, white, and blue things you see for sale in stores. Compare the display of flags and patriotism with that shown in your home country.

2. Read *US Symbols* on pages 2 and 3. Look up in a dictionary every word in the Star-Spangled Banner that you don't know.

3. Read *10 Ways to Stay Cool* on page 7. On a hot day, look at what people are wearing. How does this differ from how people dress for heat in your home country?

4. Read *Birthday Biography: Willis Haviland Carrier* on page 2. As you walk through your home, friends' homes, workplace and community, look at the manufacturer of the air conditioner you see. How many of them say "Carrier?"

5. Read *The Culture of Dumping* on page 6. Next time you go to a supermarket, count how many people bring their own bags.

## IF YOU USE THE WEB

1. Read *Guns* on page 4. Visit the sites of the two active groups in the gun debate: the National Rifle Association ([www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)) and Handgun Control ([www.bradycampaign.org](http://www.bradycampaign.org)). What do you think?

2. Read *Web Sites: Air Travel* on page 3. a) Go to [www.yapta.com](http://www.yapta.com). Look at the list of airlines it supports. Are these airlines that serve where you live in the US? (Go to that airline's web site to find out.)

b) Go to [www.kayak.com](http://www.kayak.com). Search for a roundtrip airline ticket that departs from where you now live, and arrives in the city you are originally from. Use the features on the side bar to customize your trip and find the best deal.

3. Read *10 Ways to Stay Cool* on page 7. Go to [www.wikihow.com/Cool-Yourself-Without-Air-Conditioning](http://www.wikihow.com/Cool-Yourself-Without-Air-Conditioning) and pick three tips you can try at home.

4. Read *The American Revolution* on pages 4-5. View old drawings and recent re-enactments of the Revolution at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wjfrexe61XI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wjfrexe61XI).

## WITH A FRIEND

1. Read *Who Should Decide?* on page 5. Is there discussion in your home country about the issues listed in the first and last paragraphs? How does the attitude about government control differ from the US?

2. Read *The American Revolution (Briefly)* on pages 4 and 5. Describe one important moment in your home country's history to a partner or friend. How has that moment influenced daily life today?

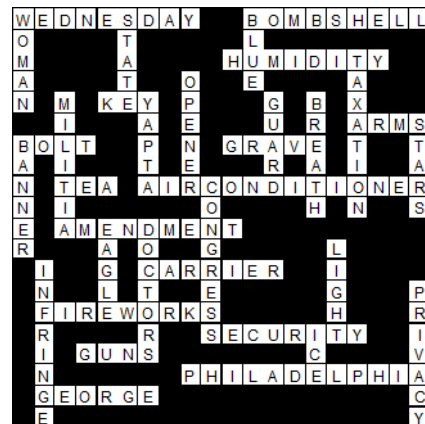
3. Read *Guns and Privacy* on pages 4 and 5. Describe to a friend or partner what the laws about gun ownership are in your home country. Are there restrictions on what doctors can discuss with their patients? Are there any restrictions on what doctors can give advice about in your home country? Discuss your view of the laws in the US.

4. Read *10 Ways to Stay Cool* on page 7. Tell a friend or partner how people in your home country stay cool in very hot weather. Have you seen people in the US trying that method?

5. Read *Do You Have What It Takes?* on page 1. Compare the survey responses of Americans (in the box in that article) to how you think people in your home country would reply. Are there other characteristics or experiences that people in your home country would list as very important, either to have or not to have?

6. Read *The Culture of Dumping* and *Extra ice, please* on page 6. Look for your home country in the list in the Sidebar of page 7. How does your home country compare with the US in terms of energy usage? What about recycling, attitudes toward waste, and other related topics? What energy-use differences have you noticed between your home country and the US? And...how do you like your drinks - with or without ice? Why?

7. Read *That Crazy English: Surprise!* on page 8. Think of something surprising that happened to you - either recently or at some time in the past. Tell a friend or partner about it using as many of the idioms in this article as possible.



## ANSWER CORNER

### VOCABULARY

- |                   |                              |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. notice         | 7. represented               |
| 2. gained control | 8. resisted (or objected to) |
| 3. elected        | 9. rejected                  |
| 4. adopt          | 10. favors                   |
| 5. tax            | 11. supported                |
| 6. marched        | 12. object to (or resist)    |
|                   | 13. requires                 |

### UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1F Having served *in the military* is...  
 2T  
 3F *About 75%* have been in the military...  
 4F *Only one* US President has had business...  
 5T

