

Cullen Introduction Cornell Notes

Key Quotations	Notes
"The term seems like the most lofty as well as the most immediate component of an American identity, a birthright far more meaningful and compelling than terms like "democracy," "Constitution," or even "the United States."	
What does using the term "birthright" to refer to this term suggest about how Americans feel about the American Dream?	
"In the twenty-first century, the American Dream remains a major element of our national identity, and yet national identity is itself marked by a sense of uncertainty that may well be greater than ever Before."	
What is problematic about the American Dream being part of our national identity? What are Cullen's claims about	ut the American Dream?



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"Indeed, one of the more remarkable things about the Dream is its hold on those one might think are most likely to be skeptical, even hostile, toward it."		
What seems to be ironic about the believers in the American Dream?		
"the Dream is neither a reassuring verity nor an empty bromide but rather a complex idea with manifold implications that can cut different ways."		
Use your dictionary to define unfamiliar words within this quotation. Then, paraphrase what the author is stating about the American Dream.		
What are Cullen's claims about the American Dream?		



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"Ambiguity is the very source of its mythic power, nowhere more so than among those striving for, but unsure whether they will reach, their goals."		
According to this quotation, how is the very act of having a dream important to Americans? How does this quotation connect to the literary passage we read in class yesterday?		
"There is no one American Dream. Instead, there are many American Dreams, their appeal simultaneously resting on their variety and their specificity."		
Based on this quotation, how do you think the author will structure the text?		
What are Cullen's claims about the American Dream?		

Grade 11: American Dream



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"This book explores a few varieties of the American Dream; their origins, their dynamics, their ongoing relevance. It does so by describing a series of specific American dreams in a loosely chronological, overlapping order."	
How does this quotation confirm or deny your previous answer? What, specifically, will the organization of this book look like?	
What are Cullen's claims about	at the American Dream?

