

from Sharing in the American Dream by Colin Powell

Thinking About the Selection

1. (a) Respond: Do you agree or disagree with Powell's message? Explain

2. (a) Recall: To which earlier group of volunteers does Powell refer at the beginning of the speech?

(b) Interpret: What types of feelings do you think Powell wants to create in his audience by mentioning this group of people?

3. (a) Recall: In what way is America "imperfect," according to Powell?

(b) Infer: What does Powell suggest would bring America closer to perfection?

4. Assess: Do you think this speech would inspire an audience to increase its involvement in volunteer work? Why or why not?

5. (a) Identify one statement of fact and one statement of opinion in the speech. Explain your choices.

6. (a) Is Powell's statement "We can do it because we are Americans" a statement of fact or opinion? Explain.