

Do not write on this paper

**Diagnostic Essay:** “America and Americans” by John Steinbeck.

1. **Introduction** (hook, connector, thesis)
2. **1<sup>st</sup> body paragraph:** Identify the writer’s argument about America and Americans: What is Steinbeck’s **overall** purpose in this essay? (I.e., what does he want the reader to think, feel, believe, do or understand about America and Americans?) Find one significant passages to support your interpretation of Steinbeck’s argument.
3. **2<sup>nd</sup> body paragraph:** analyze how Steinbeck attempts to persuade the audience. How is his evidence supposed to persuade the reader, and is his evidence effective in persuading the reader? What other strategies does he use to try to persuade the reader, and how are these strategies meant to be persuasive? Give at least two quotes
4. **Conclusion:** evaluate his argument. Even though Steinbeck wrote this piece in the 1960s, are his observations still relevant today? To make your case, use personal experience as well as other works you have read.

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**First**, identify the writer’s argument about America and Americans: What is Steinbeck’s **overall** purpose in this essay? (I.e., what does he want the reader to think, feel, believe, do or understand about America and Americans?) Find two significant passages to support your interpretation of Steinbeck’s argument.

**Next**, analyze how Steinbeck attempts to persuade the audience. How is his evidence supposed to persuade the reader, and is his evidence effective in persuading the reader? What other strategies does he use to try to persuade the reader, and how are these strategies meant to be persuasive?

**Finally**, evaluate his argument. Even though Steinbeck wrote this piece in the 1960s, are his observations still relevant today? To make your case, use personal experience as well as other works you have read.