



Unit I: Symbols and Their Meaning



Ideas

Level 1

Instructors may focus on common images to introduce students to the importance of symbols (e.g., how easily people recognize their meaning wherever they are viewed).

examples -- a heart, stop sign, dollar sign, McDonald's golden arches.



Have students look around their classroom and school. Ask them to name symbols they see and relate what they mean.

Level 2

Discuss the concept of freedom

- *What is freedom?*
- *What represents freedom in the United States?*

Have students name some of these symbols.

This can lead to further discussion about other easily recognizable "American" symbols.

- *Flag*
- *Eagle*
- *Red, White and Blue*
- *Liberty Bell*
- *White House*
- *U.S. Capitol*



Level 3

Using *We, the People* as a guide, illustrate how various works of art in buildings like the Capitol symbolize important concepts such as:

- *Freedom*
- *Justice*
- *Authority*

Follow-Up Activities A+ Level 3

Using pages 4, 54, and 57 of *We, the People* as a guide, discuss the symbolic meaning and importance of the Statue of Freedom.