

## The American Way: Two Perspectives

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** People have different ways of defining the "American Way." These two definitions should help you determine your own ideas.

### Perspective 1:

**The American way is:**

1. allowing people to achieve as much as they can for themselves.
2. being free from government interference with individual rights.
3. being allowed to run a business free from government regulation.
4. allowing people to keep what they have earned.
5. helping poor people on a voluntary basis.

### Perspective 2:

**The American way is:**

1. making sure that laws and policies do what is best for the greatest number of people.
2. making sure that no one is allowed to be successful by taking unfair advantage of others.
3. knowing that poor people are not usually poor because they deserve to be poor and that rich people are not always rich because they deserve to be rich.
4. treating good health care and a good standard of living as basic human rights.
5. using tax money to help poor people.