**Week 2-1 Assignment**

**Give the Chinese equivalent of the underlined word, please do not use a dictionary.**

**Discussion 1: Definition**

1.The ideal person is **punctual** (that is, arrives at the scheduled time for a meeting or event) and is considerate of other people's time (that is, does not " waste people's time" with conversation or other activity that has no visible, beneficial outcome).

2.Americans will often speak, openly and directly to others about things they dislike. They will try to do so in a manner they call “**constructive**,” that is, a manner which the other person will not find offensive or unacceptable.

3.In their efforts to use their time wisely, Americans are sometimes seen by foreign visitors as **automatons**, unhuman creatures who are so tied to their clocks and their schedules that they cannot participate in or enjoy the human interactions that are the truly important things in life. "They are like little machines running around," one foreign visitor said.

**Discussion 2: Example**

1.Americans tend to assume that conflicts or disagreements are best settled by means of **forthright** discussions among the people involved. If I dislike something you are doing, I should tell you about it directly so you will know, clearly and from me personally, how I feel about it.

2.In this context the " fast-food industry" can be seen as a clear example of an American cultural product. McDonald's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut, and other fast-food **establishments** prosper in a country where many people want to minimize the amount of time they spend preparing and eating meals.

3.Americans , as has been said before, generally consider themselves to be frank , open, and direct in their dealings with other people. "**Let's lay our cards on the table**," CD they say. Or, " Let's stop playing games and get to the point." These and many other common phrases convey the Americans' idea that people should explicitly state what they think and what they want from other people. (51)

4. He was considered as something of a **maverick** in the publishing world, always refusing to swim with the tide, to follow suits.

**Discussion 3: Synonym & Antonym**

1. Americans might feel especially reluctant to say " no" directly to a foreigner, for fear of making the person feel unwelcome or discriminated against. They will often try to **convey** the " no" indirectly, by saying such things as " it's not convenient now" or by repeatedly postponing an agreed-upon time for doing something.“

2. He's a hard worker," one American might say in praise of another. Or, " She gets the job done." These expressions convey the typical American's admiration for a person who approaches a task conscientiously and **persistently**, seeing it through to a successful conclusion.

3. Generalizing about groups of people makes many of us nervous. We like to think of ourselves as unique individuals, not representatives of **stereotypes**.

4. The cost is in the collateral damage of the very methods of food production that have made the food cheaper: in the pollution of water, the **enervation** of soil, the destruction of wildlife, the harm to animal welfare and the threat to human health caused by modern industrial agriculture.

**Discussion 4: Inference**

1. A parent will ask a one-year-old child what color balloon she wants, which candy bar she would prefer, or whether she wants to sit next to mommy or daddy. The child's preference will normally be **accommodated**.

2. Americans admire people who have overcome **adverse** circumstances and "succeeded" in life.

3. In a related development, the sharp distinction between museum and heritage sites on the one hand, and theme parks on the other, is gradually **evaporating**. In fact, they already borrow ideas and concepts from one another.

4. Developed countries are working to help the Third World **eradicate** poverty