English 11A   Name _____

Unit 2: A New Nation   Hour _____

Standards/Objectives

RL.11-12.2   Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of a text…; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.11-12.9   Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and early twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.

Objectives: - Explain characteristics of the new American colonies that would appeal to new European immigrants.

This assignment is Evidence #1 for the Unit 2 Literature Test.

Excerpts from *What is an American?*
by Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crevecoeur

1.   **Please attach your SMILES graphic organizer to these questions before handing in this assignment!** (Similes, Metaphors, Imagery, **Locate the Main Idea**, Effects of the Author's Voice {Mood & Tone}, Summary)

2.   Using Learner's Dictionary, define "penury".

3.   **Page 224.** According to the author, why was Europe a land where man lived in penury?

4.   What do you think might make America appealing to Crevecoeur and other Europeans?
           Use PEA (Point, Evidence, Analysis) to answer this question!

5.   Do you think Crevecoeur's description of 18th-century America was accurate? Why or why not?

6.   Do you think Crevecoeur's description of an American describes Americans today?
             Use PEA (Point, Evidence, Analysis) to answer this question!
       Consider…
              - groups that Crevecoeur does not name
              - goals and lifestyles of today's Americans

7.   How similar are the motives [goals] of 18th-century immigrants and today's immigrants to the United States? Support your opinion with evidence from your own background knowledge.