Grandmother: That sounds difficult. I used to play music on 45s and LPs.

Grandson: What's a 45?

Grandmother: It's a small disc, like a CD, that's made of vinyl. They're usually black. There's one or two songs on one side and one or two songs on the other.

Grandson: Did you have to turn it over to hear the other songs?

Grandmother: Yes. If I played a 45, I had to turn it over when the first songs finished. I also had LPs, which are bigger discs that can hold entire albums of songs. I used to have lots of 45s and LPs, but they take up a lot of space.

Grandson: Wow! I'm glad that technology has improved.

Grandmother: Yes, but some people still think the sound quality that LPs had was better.

Grandson: Really? Do you still have any 45s or LPs?

Grandmother: We have some in the den, and I think we have a turntable in the basement.

Grandson: A turntable? Do you have the kind that I've seen DJs using?

Grandmother: I don't think so. My turntable is like a piece of furniture.

Grandson: Let's go get it. I want to see this old technology.

Grandmother: Okay, we'll play one of my dance records from the '70s.

Grandson: Can I call my friends? They'd love to see this.

Grandmother: Sure!

Track 76

The people who first made country music in the United States lived over 100 years ago in the Appalachian Mountains. Music was an important part of the Appalachian Mountain culture. People sang while they were working, while they were in church, and while attending community events.

Some elements of country music originated in the musical traditions of the British Isles: Scotland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, England, and Wales. The people who immigrated to the United States from these countries shared the same native language of English, which may have made it easier for their music to spread. This music included both dance songs and ballads. Ballads were songs that often told sad stories of love or war.

African American music and musicians were also very important to the development of American country music. For example, the banjo, which was originally brought to the United States from Africa, was a very popular instrument in early country music.

Another important country music instrument was the fiddle, which was brought over from the British Isles. The fiddler, who carried the melody of most country songs, was usually the leader of community dances. Banjos and fiddles are still popular in country music today, but other instruments—such as electric guitars and keyboards—are also used. Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family, who first recorded in 1927, became the first superstars of country music.

Track 77

Music and New Orleans

The history of New Orleans is different from the history of many other US cities. The city was founded in 1718 by the French. Starting in 1763, the city was governed by the Spanish. In 1803, the Louisiana territories were again controlled by France, but they were quickly sold to the United States in a transaction called the Louisiana Purchase.

New Orleans began with a French-speaking culture that included a love of good food, wine, music, and dancing. Later, Africans, some free and some slaves, arrived in the city and brought West Indian culture from the Caribbean. French, Spanish, and African/Caribbean cultures mixed to create a new language and culture called Creole. After that, African Americans from around the US moved to New Orleans, adding yet another cultural and musical element to the city.

Jazz music began in the African American communities, but it was also influenced by the ethnic diversity of New Orleans. Bands, which were led by brass instruments such as trumpets and trombones, participated in many community events like parades and even funeral processions. Music was a part of every celebration.

In the late 1800s, some musicians started improvising, or changing the music and making up new melodies as they played. This was also a time when the Creole and African American musicians began to combine their styles. In the early 1900s, the popularity of jazz spread to other cities, especially to clubs in Chicago and New York City.

Louis Armstrong (1901–1971), who was a very popular jazz musician, was born in New Orleans. During the 1920s, Armstrong developed his style as a solo artist, but his recordings with his bands, which were called the Hot Five and the Hot Seven, made him an international star. He toured continuously until he died in 1971.

After Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, many musicians lost their homes and had to leave the city. Two New Orleans musicians, Harry Connick Jr. and Branford Marsalis, raised money to build the Musicians' Village. This community includes 77 homes and a music center where people can learn, listen to, dance to, and produce music.

UNIT 14

Track 78

1. Marco came to the United States from Brazil when he was 24. Many years have passed. Marco has learned to speak, read, and write English very well, and he's had a few different jobs. He met Luciana, another immigrant from Brazil, and they've gotten married. Over the years, they've had a busy life. They have two children: a boy named Alonso and a girl named Zandra. Their children were born in the United States, so they're already US citizens.
2. Marco and Luciana decided to become citizens. They got their application papers from the government immigration agency. They carefully completed all of the paperwork and mailed in their documents. They expected to wait six months to a year for a response.

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3. While waiting for their appointments, Marco and Luciana studied for their naturalization tests. Luciana was nervous because her English was not as strong as Marco's. Marco and Alonso helped her practice the English sample questions and the questions about US history.
4. Finally, after ten months of waiting, they received appointments for the naturalization interview and test. An immigration officer spoke to each of them separately. They had to answer questions in English, write a couple of sentences in English, and read some sentences in English. Luciana was lucky. Her interviewer spoke slowly, and Luciana answered all of the questions correctly.
5. Three months later, Marco and Luciana received their letters of approval. They were going to be US citizens!
6. At the swearing-in ceremony, there were at least 100 other people. Together, everyone repeated the oath of allegiance to the United States. Then, they signed a paper. The judge congratulated everyone. They each received a small American flag and a letter from the President of the United States.

Track 79

1. Marco and Luciana wanted to become citizens.
2. They agreed to spend time after work preparing for the test.
3. They tried to study the test questions as often as possible.
4. Their children promised to help more with the household chores.
5. Marco already knew how to speak and write English well.
6. Luciana needed to study English more.
7. She decided to take an English course two days a week.
8. When they become citizens, they would like to register to vote.

Track 80

1. dangerous
2. necessary
3. impossible
4. wonderful
5. polite
6. reasonable
7. romantic
8. stressful
9. helpful

Track 81

1. Many immigrants discuss becoming citizens.
2. Sometimes, they delay starting the process because they are very busy.
3. People often regret not taking English classes before they immigrated.
4. Many immigrants anticipated not having an easy time when they arrived.
5. Immigrants from tropical countries often can't imagine wearing heavy coats and sweaters.
6. Some people postpone studying English until after their children finish school.
7. Many immigrant students don't mind attending classes in the evening.
8. Some immigrants enjoy learning about US history.

Track 82

Hi, my name is Erik, and I'm an immigrant from Germany. I've been a citizen for a few years now, but I've always avoided getting involved in politics. I voted in the major elections, but sometimes I forgot to vote in the city elections. I was always too busy with my family and my business. I'm married, and my wife and I have three children, a boy and two girls. I also own a successful bookstore. I worked hard to build my business, and now we have three locations across the city. Senior citizen volunteers read to young children three times a week at the bookstores. They're great places for the community. I also volunteer to teach a computer class at the local adult school twice a week. I really enjoy working with the students.

There's an empty seat on the city council, and my friend Manuel persuaded me to run. He said that I'm a leader in the community and that I can help make a difference. I warned him not to expect too much. I'm a businessman, not a politician. But recently, I've been looking forward to giving interviews and meeting people in town.

My wife, Andrea, is good at organizing people, so she has a group of people at our house almost every night. Recently, they have been talking about having a voter-registration drive. It's important to get every vote that we can, so volunteers are going to set up registration tables in front of the library and the supermarkets. Andrea is also in charge of getting volunteers to make phone calls. My children and some of their friends enjoy making signs and putting letters in envelopes. They have been a big help to the campaign.

We're not worried about spending too much money because many friends want to donate their services. My friend Manuel has been helping me practice for this month's debate. At first, I was worried about speaking in front of so many people, but after practicing more, I've been able to enjoy it. A campaign is a lot of work, but it's worth it.

Track 83

The Naturalization Test

1. What do the stars on the flag mean?
   a. There is one star for each 100 citizens.
   b. There is one star for each citizen.
   c. There is one star for each state.
   d. There is one star for each president.
2. How many states are there in the United States?
   a. 48
   b. 49
   c. 50
   d. 51
3. When is Independence Day?
   a. January 1st
   b. July 4th
   c. September 1st
   d. November 25th
4. What do the thirteen stripes on the flag represent?
   a. The first thirteen presidents

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b. The original thirteen colonies
c. The first thirteen days of the country
d. Thirteen laws

5. From which country did the United States fight to win independence?
   a. Germany
   b. Ireland
   c. France
   d. Great Britain

6. Who was the first President of the United States?
   a. Abraham Lincoln
   b. John Adams
   c. George Washington
   d. Benjamin Franklin

7. Who becomes the President of the United States if the President dies?
   a. the Secretary of State
   b. the Secretary of Defense
   c. the First Lady
   d. the Vice President

8. Who makes the laws in the United States?
   a. Congress
   b. judges
   c. the President
   d. the governors

9. Which state borders Canada?
   a. Tennessee
   b. Montana
   c. Arizona
   d. North Carolina

10. Who was the President during the Great Depression and World War II?
    a. Franklin D. Roosevelt
    b. Thomas Jefferson
    c. John F. Kennedy
    d. Dwight D. Eisenhower

11. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?
    a. the Boston Tea Party
    b. the Vietnam War protests
    c. the Civil Rights Movement
    d. the Women's Suffrage Movement

Track 84

1. What is the Bill of Rights?
2. What is one of the rights of the Constitution?
3. What is the voting age?
4. How many senators are there?
5. In what month do we vote for the President?
6. What is the capital of the United States?
7. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?
8. How long is the President's term of office?

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