

## PROFILE



Their patriotic feeling makes them be careful with visitors, but still eager to show them their customs and their interesting places. Therefore, it can be said that they are open and kind people, especially when they talk about their flag (you can find it everywhere), and when they hear their national anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner, which you can hear even in a baseball match.

On the other hand, they usually follow the fashions with great enthusiasm and dedication, which facilitates the limitless consumerism.

Also because of their pragmatic attitude to life, work is devotion for them. They consider themselves fantastic people who live practically for their job, who get up early, buy their breakfast in the cafeteria, eat hastily a sandwich at 12:00 hours and do some hours overtime. That's why at weekends, people look for any entertainment to relax their spirit.

Another important characteristic of the American

society is the high degree of cleanliness, and the strict execution of the norms. So, for example, smoking is forbidden almost everywhere, and if you try to light a cigarette in a shopping centre you will feel the disapproval of the people that surround you.

It's necessary to highlight the functionality of things in the USA. It is also the best country at offering possibilities to people with physical problems, and that's very positive.

To conclude, it would be interesting to explain the reason why they are called "Yankees".

Some people say that it could originate in the Dutch word "yanke", which means "Juanito". Other people say that the American Indians pronounced badly the French word "anglais", which means English, and so the result was the word "Yankee". Before the Independence war, British soldiers used that word to call them pejoratively, but, the Americans, far from being offended, adopted it to refer to themselves.

# the religions of the *United States*

**The USA is a privileged place for religions. The heterogeneous origins of its population have implanted a lot of spiritual currents in the USA. The ramification is very complex, and therefore, here is a schematic panorama of the religious diversity in the USA.**

## The Christianity in the U.S.A.

**The Catholics represent approximately a fourth of the total believer population (fifty million people) and spread about a lot of churches .**

**Catholicism has given rise to other groups:**

**The Orthodox are more than four million of the and also population spread about a lot of churches. The most important of them are the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America (two million believers) and the Orthodox Church of America (one million).**

**The Protestant Nebula has seventy-three million believers. It groups:**

**- The Baptists ,who are more than twenty-five million, the majority in the south. The creator was John Smith in the 16th century.**

**- The Methodists, who are twelve million. Their guide was John Wesley. They preach the purity of habits.**

**. The Lutherans, who are more than eight million. They are one of the two big churches of the Reformation.**

**-There are more groups of the Protestant Nebula that live in the USA, but they are less important than the ones mentioned above.**

## The Jewish Communities

**Out of the six million Jews that live in the USA, four million belong to a single synagogue, but there are a lot of communities:**

**The Orthodox Judaism is the minority branch and the purest.**

**The Conservative Judaism is the most important branch. This movement is between the Orthodox and the Reformers.**

**The Reformist Judaism appeared in Germany. The woman is equal to the man in the synagogue.**

# George W. Bush

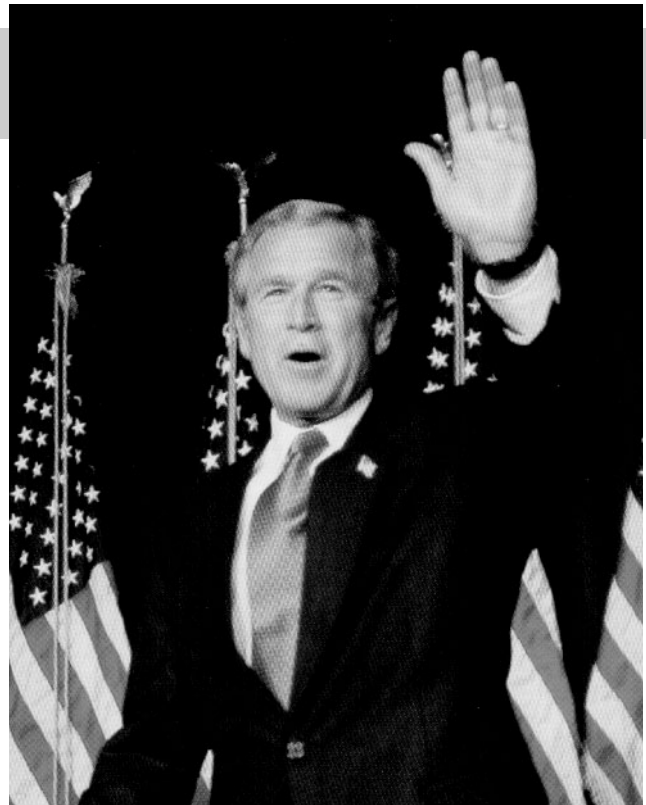
Leticia Palomo  
Tania Platel 2º Bachillerato D

George W. Bush was born on July 6, 1946, in New Haven, Connecticut, and he grew up in Texas, where his family have a ranch. He started to study at Yale University in 1968, and then he worked as a pilot in the Texas Air National Guard.

Bush received a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School in 1975, and when he graduated, he moved back to Midland and studied Energy Business.

After working on his father's presidential campaign, he met the group of partners that bought the Texas Rangers baseball authorisation in 1989, and he became manager partner of the Texas Rangers. When he finished that job he was elected Governor of Texas in 1994; and he became the first Governor in Texas history to be elected two consecutive times, when he was re-elected on 1998.

George W. Bush was first elected president of the United States in November, 2000, after a



good campaign in which he won the trust of great part of the Americans. Bush became the 43rd President of the United States. Bush was re-elected President of the United States in the last elections.

Bush is married to Laura Welch Bush, a teacher and a librarian, and they have twin daughters, Barbara and Jenna.

# The White House

**F**or two hundred years, the White House has stood as a symbol of the Presidency of the United States government, and the American people. Its history began when President George Washington signed in the congress in December of 1790 and he declared that the federal government would reside in a district. President Washington and the city planner Pierre L'Enfant, chose the site for the new residence, which is in 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. A competition was celebrated to find a builder for the "President's House.

Nine models were chosen, but an Irish-born architect James Hoban won a gold medal for his practical and handsome design.

The White House's construction began in October of 1792. Although President Washington oversaw the construction of the house, he never lived in it. It was finished in 1800 when President John Adams and his wife, Abigail, moved in. They were the first residents. Since then each president has lived in it and has made his own changes and additions. The White House is the private president's house and it is also open to the public.

The White House has a fascinating history. It survived two fires in 1814 and 1929, while Herbert



**Sofia Heisig**  
**Noelia de la Roca 2º Bach. D**

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Hoover was President. When Harry S. Truman was president the interior of the house, except for the third floor, was completely renovated. Two centuries after the construction of the White House the outer stone walls were built.

Presidents can express their individual style in it. Thomas Jefferson did the first opening of house in 1805. President Jefferson also opened the house for public tours and it has remained open since then. Besides, he welcomed visitors to annual receptions on New Year's Day and on the Fourth of July.

After the Secession War, the number of visitors to these tours increased. Grover Cleveland, in his first presidency, changed it. He organized the flag-draped grandstand which is built in front

White House.

There are 132 rooms, 35 bathrooms, and 6 levels in the Residence. There are also 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, 8 staircases, and 3 elevators.

Many times along history, the White House has been known as the "President's Palace," the "President's House," and the "Executive Mansion." President Theodore Roosevelt officially gave the White House its present name in 1901. There is also time for entertainment at the White House. You can do sports, there are tennis courts, a swimming-pool, a jogging track and a bowling alley. , you can both do sports or see a play in a movie theatre.

# C.I.A.



## THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Very few people really know the truth about one of the most important and efficient secret organizations of the world. Many people think that they are only secret agents who travel to other countries in covert operations and kill the USA enemies without letting us know, like in movies. But there is more than meets the eye in this organisation.

They are basically an independent agency whose main task is providing information about foreign countries to the USA policymakers in a way that they can use that in favour of their country. Of course they also conduct covert action at the direction of the President to prevent threats or achieve United States policy objectives. But their principal objective is to be the eyes and ears of the nation.

Talking a bit about their organization, we should mention that there are three directorates and five mission support offices.

- 1** The Directorate of Intelligence whose principal mission is to analyse all-source intelligence and produce reports, briefings, and papers on key foreign intelligence issues.
- 2** The Directorate of Operations which supports the covert operations to get information and take action.
- 3** The Directorate of Science and Technology, which is an important part of CIA's machinery because they develop innovative technology and apply it to support intelligence collection.

They have a lot of ways of getting information. They analyse foreign intercepted communications, they also look carefully photographs or images from space satellites, and of course they acquire information from human sources, both from secret covert agents and people from the countries. They analyse the open sources too, which are TV, radio, newspapers...

Finally, we'd like to say that I have written this article to prevent people from having this wrong idea of the CIA because of the films. Of course they act in covert operations and capture terrorist and they influence in international policy, but they are something more. There are lots of hours of work behind secret agents, and they only take action when it is totally necessary.

**Víctor Castilla, Álvaro Gutierrez 2º Bach. D**

# TERRORISM TERRORISM IN THE U.S.A.

Mario Álvarez  
Jesús Marino de  
Blas  
2º Bach. D

Nowadays terrorism is one of the most important problems in the USA and in the whole world; this situation worsened after the attacks at the Twin towers on September 11, in which a great number of victims and material losses were produced, which alarmed the entire world. In that moment, the USA government started a new approach against terrorism, a much more active one.

One of the first measures was to have a better control in airports to avoid other plane kidnappings. The government added to this measure others like increasing safety in public places or places with an important

transit of people. But outside the USA borders, the government started to fight against Islamic groups who have their training camps in some areas of Afghanistan, which constitute the principal terrorist threat for the USA.

These groups of Islamic radicals have taken the way of terrorism to try to stop the submission to the USA, which is against their ideas. They contemplate it like a Jihad, and therefore the fact of

dying as martyrs assures the heaven for them. Another face of the Islamic terrorism is suffered by those Muslims who reside in the USA, which are being affected by a wave of xenophobia against the Islamic culture.

Another one of the important aspects of the terrorism is its influence on society, especially on the economy. The fear of new attempts and the conse-

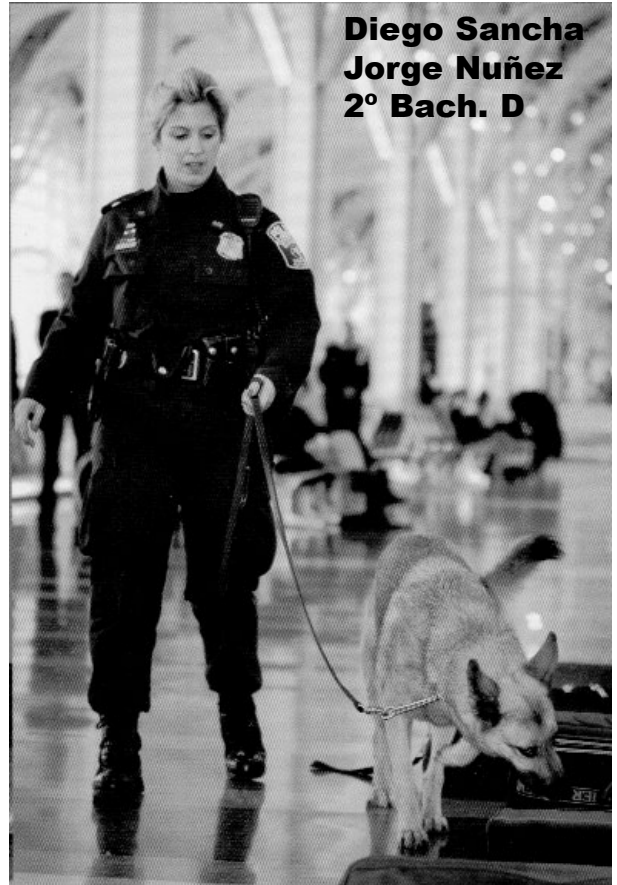
quences of the attacks of the Twin towers have spread such a great insecurity in the stock market that has caused an increase of the prices and has slowed down the economy. Another affected sector is the tourism that has



descended due to the fear of new attempts or kidnappings. These consequences, little by little, are disappearing and everything is returning to normality.

As a conclusion, we think that this is a problem which affects most countries of the developed world because from the eyes of the terrorists we are participants of the American imperialism. This has made this situation become a global problem.

# Big fears for a big nation



**Diego Sancha  
Jorge Nuñez  
2° Bach. D**

**T**wo years after one of the worst terrorist attacks in the world, the United States of America, a large country with great economic, political and military power, sadly finds itself hurt economically and socially. The people of the United States of America are afraid. In the country of freedom and democracy, it is sad to see that some of the most fundamental values like democracy and freedom have been damaged. In the United States of America the fragile line between freedom and security has begun to break down. Nowadays, there is a dilemma and confusion as how much freedom I must give to be able to be secure.

It is necessary that the people of the United States of America think about it and ask their government explanations about possible threats. It is also necessary that they know what is happening in the world outside their boundary and in the wars they are fighting. Also, they must analyze how to avoid threats that arise and they should also study if there are better solutions than using the force, or even better, the justified use of force with the support of the International Community.



The citizens of the United States of America were surprised by what President Bush defined as an “act of war”, but in order to continue being the major world power, they will have to analyze better each political situation in order to make themselves stronger and to continue along the road that they need to follow. On the other hand, they must not lose sight of the fact that the liberty and democracy exists because of the meticulous attention that it is given to them.

# AMERICA'S

## American music influence

Nowadays American music has a big influence in our country and all over the world. Doesn't any of us know a famous American song at least?

Here is a list of a few very well-known American artists and bands of some different kinds of music:

American music cannot be explained without any mention to **country and western music**. It is the most popular music in the U.S.A. It was created from the influences of Irish folk music and has also some influences of a few styles of popular music.

**Dolly Parton** is one of the best-known country stars. She began to work in 1980 as an actress. She and Ricky Vanb Shelton won the *TNN Music News Awards* in 1992 because of their song *Rocking years*.

**Hank Williams**: In 1949 he sang in "Grand Ole Opry". His show was enjoyed by many and so it was the beginning of his new career as a country singer. He died when he was still very young because of both alcohol and drugs.



Dolly Parton



**Pop music:** Madonna Louise Veronica Ciccone who is better known as **Madonna**, is a very famous pop singer (to the point that she has been considered "the queen of popular music" by many

people). She has always had an incredible talent to transform herself and her musical style, maybe this is the secret of her very long and successful career.

**Heavy Metal music:** **Metallica** is an American heavy metal band that was created in the early 1980's and is still active nowadays. Metallica clearly meant a huge influence in the development of trash metal during the 1980's, anyway, its audience became much bigger in the 1990's. Not only has it increased its commercial importance, but the accusations of "selling out" -due to lots of stylistic changes - as well.



most

wanted

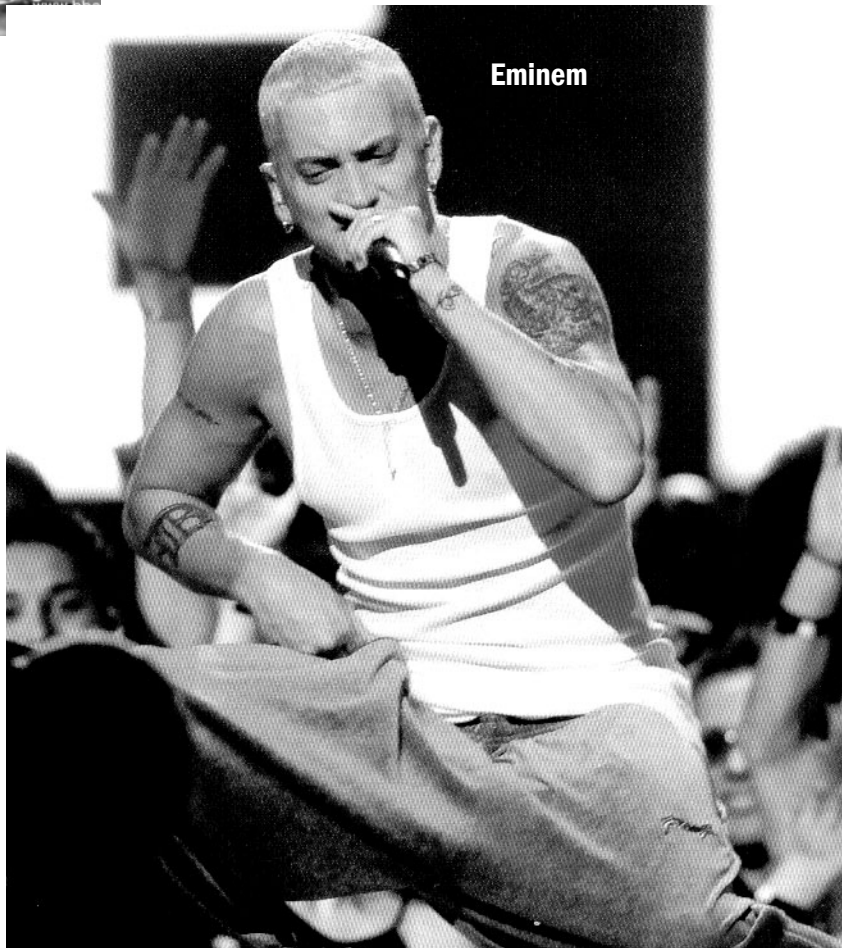
Red Hot chilly Peppers



**Rock music:** Red Hot Chilli Peppers is a rock band from California in the U.S.A. They started in the 80's as an original group of rock which combined both punk rock and funk, and nowadays their latest hits like "By the way or Fortune faded "show that they are still alive.

Although their lyrics are quite euphoric in the majority of their songs, some of their biggest hits are more sentimentally profound, as for example "Under the Bridge". Anyway, they are considered to be the most original rock band in recent times.

Eminem



**Hip-Hop music:** Marshall Bruce Mathers III was born on October 17, 1972. He is one of today's most popular hip hop musicians and very well known among the youth by the stage name "Eminem".

He is perhaps so well-known because of being one of the few white rappers that are successful, and one of the most critically acclaimed. Many youngsters look up to him, but he is also infamous in the most conservative sectors of the American society for many of his lyrics, which are said to be homophobic and too violent.



**“New- Punk”:** Marilyn Mason is the stage name of Brian Hugh Warner; an American musician who was born on January 5, 1969. He is the leader and singer of the band Marylin Manson. He is well known due to the lyrics of his songs which are very provocative because they are about drugs, sex and all kind of blasphemies. He has also used his music as a way to criticise American society, above all in an album called *“Portrait of an American Family”*, the shocking scenes of his videos-clip, some of them censured in U.S.A., and the way he behaves.

He has been vastly criticised by American society and considered not more than another “politically incorrect” stuff by the media to the point that a secondary school student was expelled from a class because of wearing a Marilyn Manson T-shirt during the late 1990’s.

**Nu-metal music:** Linkin park, which is a six-piece Californian famous band, is a good example of this new sort of music which mixes metal, rap, electronic and hip-hop sounds. Its style is in some way inspired by Korn’s and Limp Bizkit’s music. In spite of the fact that their first album *“Hybrid Theory”* was released in, 1999 nowadays they are one of the most popular American bands all over the world because of their powerful lyrics and the sound of their new hits such as *“In the End or Numb”*.



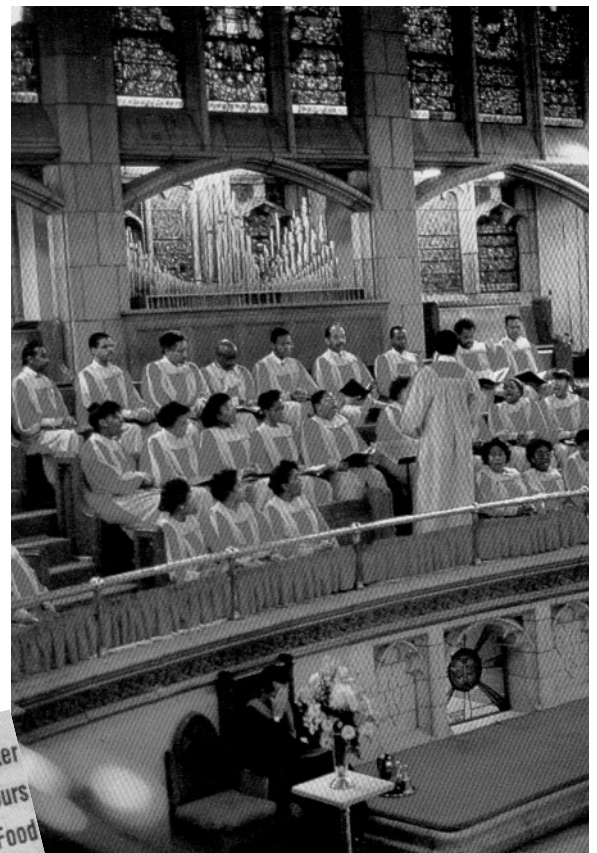
**Javier Mambrilla, Ana María Arauzo, Alberto de la Cruz, 2º Bachillerato D**

# GOSPEL MUSIC

Marta Lozano 1º Bachillerato A

**I**t's a religious singing of popular character, very common in the US-black American community. At first it was more often between white bands, but later, it became essential in the Christian celebrations led by the evangelist Dwight Moody and the musician Ira Sankey. It had its origins in the hymns of the Sunday schools, in faith chorales and in the melodies and harmonies of the popular music, that were transformed by the African traditions of the black community. In their songs they use reponse psalm and makeshift. The black music Gospel reached his maximum success in the 1930s and 1960s. The general singing is accompanied on a piano or an organ, with claps and with tambourines and electric guitars. The text is based on support themes.

**Rosetta Tharpe and Mahalia Jackson are some of the best singers.**



# Woody Allen



## biography

His real name is Allen Stewart Konigsberg. He was born in 1935 in Brooklyn, New York. His parents were Martin and Nethea Konigsberg, both Jewish-german. He wasn't a good student and he didn't have many friends; he preferred watching films, reading comics, listening to music and doing sports. When he was fifteen he changed his name to Woody Allen. He went to university when he was eighteen. He didn't pass his cinematography exams so he left university. He began to write gags for the entertainer David Albert. In the 60's he became an entertainer on his own, on television, in Greenwich village's shows. His success on the show business world took him to the cinema.

## Films

What are Woody Allen's movies like?

His films are ironical, sarcastic, and critical against the american capitalist society. He makes low-budget films. They are based on dialogues and ridiculous situations, not in action or special effects. His characters are typical and topical. Humour and euphemisms are fundamental on his movies.

Alvaro Cancela  
Iván Moyano 4º C

## miscellaneous

He got married three times, and he has had 3 girlfriends. He and one of his wives, Mia Farrow, took on adoption seven children. But he fell in love with one of his adoptive daughters, so he divorced Mia to marry his step-daughter in 1997. He plays the clarinet with a band called "Wild Man Blues". He plays with this group on gigs round Europe and the USA. His films get better reviews and box office takings in Europe than in the States.