

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS— FACILITATOR VERSION

Believe each of us is an equal member of the global community. Each of us has a role to play in the world. The challenge is to find ways to work together to address the global issues we face. Each of us has a responsibility to contribute to the well-being of the global community and to the planet as a whole.

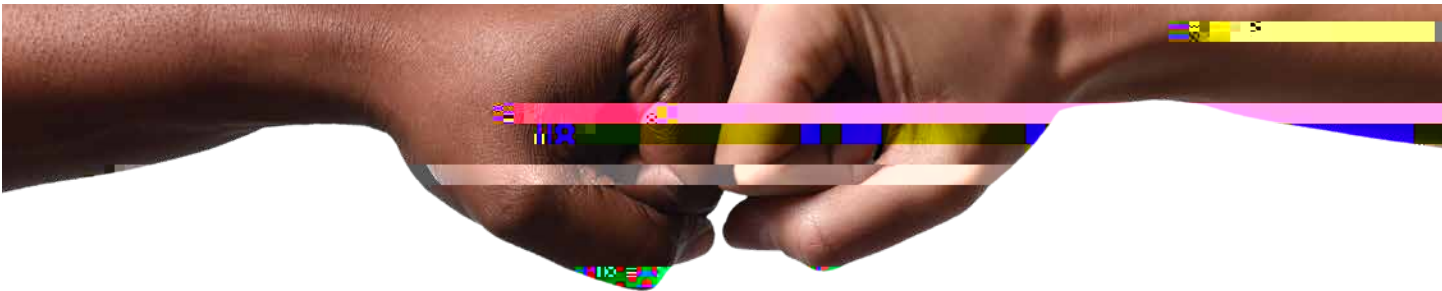
Imagine a world where every person is a member of the global community. We are all in this together. The challenge is to find ways to work together to address the global issues we face.

Saying global is not enough. We need to be clear about what we mean by global. It is not just about the United States or Europe. It is about the entire world. We need to be clear about what we mean by global.

According to the United Nations, global means across national boundaries. It is about the entire world. We need to be clear about what we mean by global.

One of the biggest challenges we face is how to work together to address the global issues we face. We need to find ways to work together to address the global issues we face.

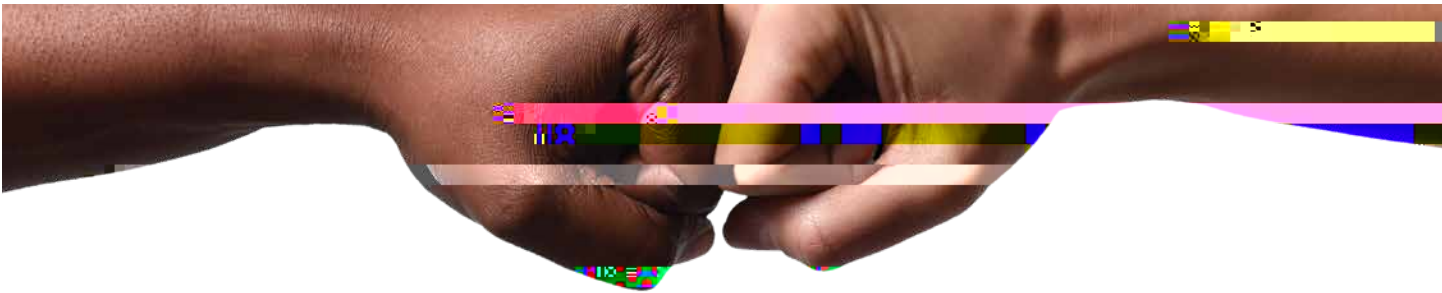
Participate in the global community. We are all in this together. The challenge is to find ways to work together to address the global issues we face. Each of us has a role to play in the world. The challenge is to find ways to work together to address the global issues we face.



GENERAL QUESTIONS

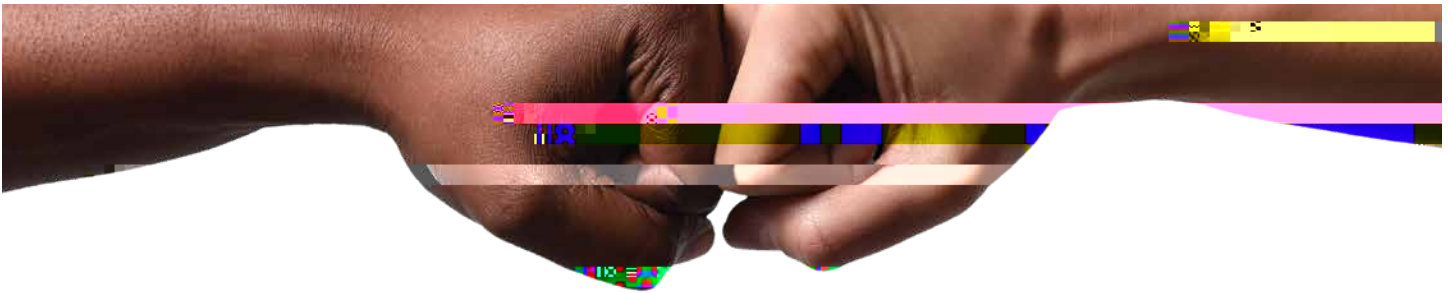
1. **Is there something that happens in this book that reminds you of how race works in the United States today?** What is it? Do you think race plays a role in the lives of the characters? Why or why not?

<p><i>Between the World and Me</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White people are fighting back against Black people more often than in the past (94-5) The fight against Black people is still ongoing (112-13); People are still being killed (112-13)
<p><i>Dreaming in Indian</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian identity is a complex and fluid concept (30-1) See the media's role in shaping identity (43) Realize that identity is not fixed (50-3)
<p><i>Mother of the Sea</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slave and indentured labor systems (114-5)
<p><i>Revolution of Evelyn Serrano</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People are still fighting for equality (104) People are still fighting for equality (109-10) People are still fighting for equality (114-5) People are still fighting for equality (152, 185-6)
<p><i>Always Running</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigrants (Luis 'Mama' Berrón) are still being treated as second-class citizens (19) White people are still discriminating (67) People are still fighting for equality (Miguel R. Valdez, 201-2; Luis 'Mama' Berrón, 226-7) White people are still discriminating (144-5; María 'Mama' Berrón, 221) People are still fighting for equality (Luis 'Mama' Berrón, 226-7)



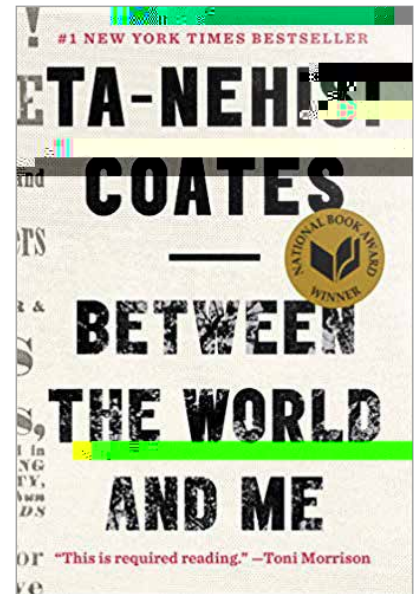
2. Pick a moment when a character in this book uses information about the past to find a way forward. How does understanding the history of their family, community, or racial/ethnic group help this character decide how they want to shape their future? Do you think history always helps people decide how they want to shape their future? Do you think history ever helps people decide how they want to shape their future? Why or why not?

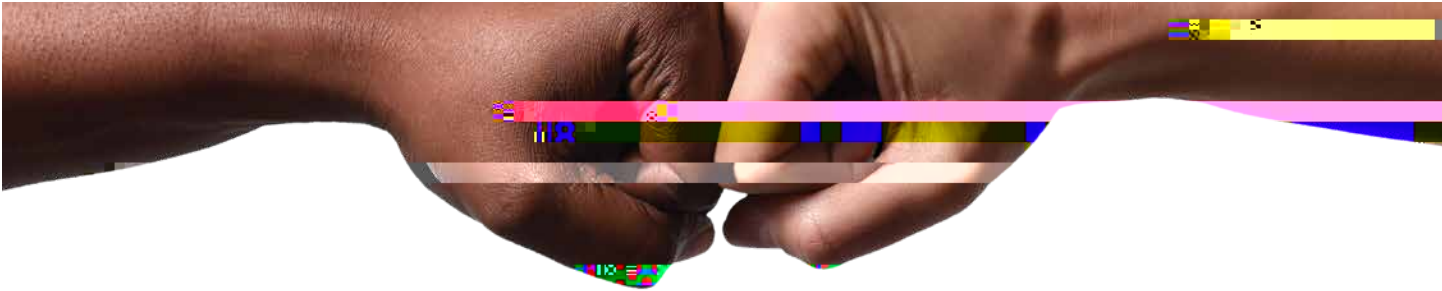
<i>Between the World and Me</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Malcolm X (34-6) - Black history (43-8)



BOOK 1: *Between the World and Me*

4. Why do you think that this book takes on the big, historically complicated question of racism against Black Americans in the form of a letter from a father to his son? How do his choices make his talk about his family's place in America his?
5. What do you think Coates means when he says that race – and especially whiteness—is a “modern invention” (7)? How could whiteness be created, as Coates suggests, through acts of violence against Black and other people of color (8, 103)? Can we ever escape the image of the Black man in America? (8) How do we see him in movies, on TV, in all the advertisements in his America. How do we make our choices?
6. While doing a graduate internship in a gay and lesbian health care clinic, he encounters a Black woman who helps him break down his definition of a Black man. How does getting to know the queer, multiracial household of one woman (58-61) change how he thinks about Blackness, love, and what it means to be a hero? And how does he face discrimination in his racial identity? If he had a child, how would he like to be called? How would he like to be called?
7. When Coates arrived in the US for the first time in his 30s, he called the experience “Eli’s America” (121). What makes Eli’s America like a journey? How does he see Coates? What makes him see Coates as not being a “real” American? How does he see Coates? (124-7) Can we ever truly escape the racial histories associated with our identities? Why or why not?

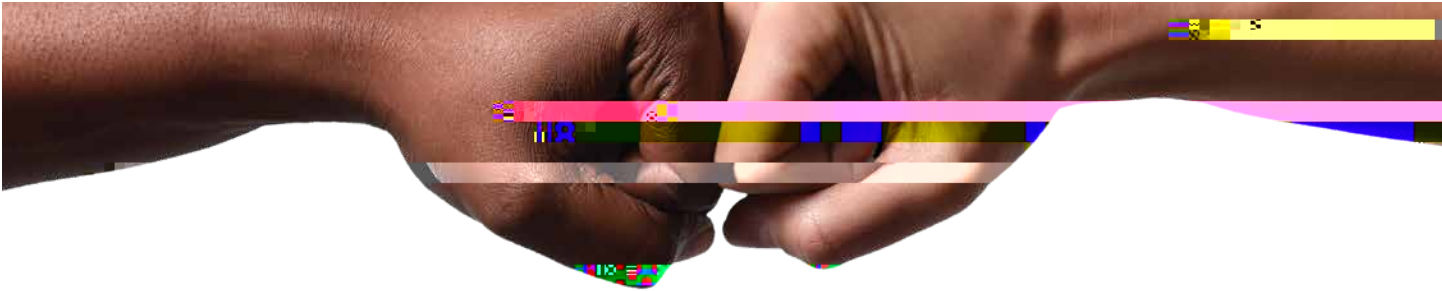




BOOK 2:

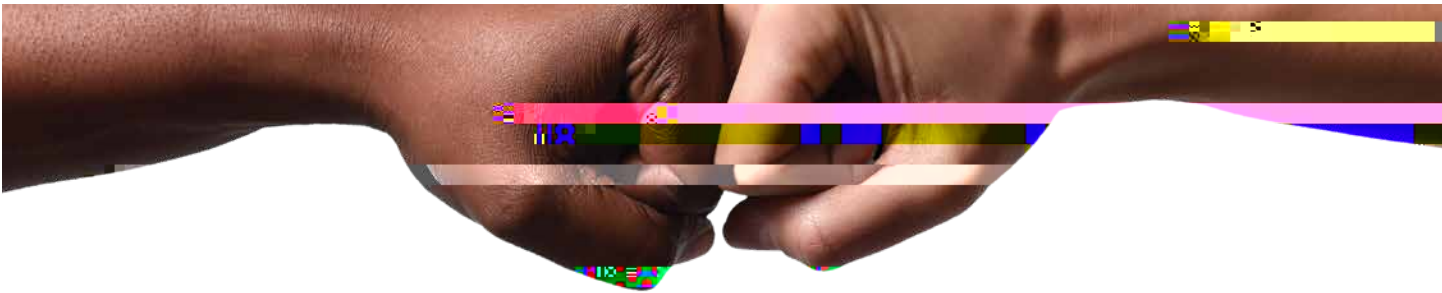
Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native American Voices

4. This collection is called *Dreaming in Indian*, by which I include contributions from diverse First Nations and Indigenous peoples across what we call North America (for example, see contributions 124-5). **What kinds of experiences do many of the diverse individuals in this volume seem to share? What sets them apart from one another? Why do you think it is important to many Native**



BOOK 3: *Mother of the Sea*

- 4. Ze a Elli call *Mother of the Sea* a me maid . **Who do you think are the mermaids in this book?** (Yem ja, 45-6, a' d he da gh e Eja-keke, _li le h , e ha Ad ke a he e' d.) **How are they di erent from or similar to the mainstream images of mermaids that you have seen before?** Wha d hi' k f Elli ' ch ice c mbi' e a me maid i h a ale ab e' la. ed Af ica' c i' g he A la' ic?
- 5.

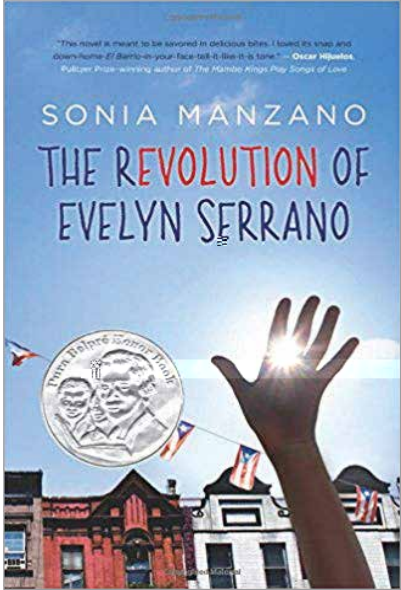


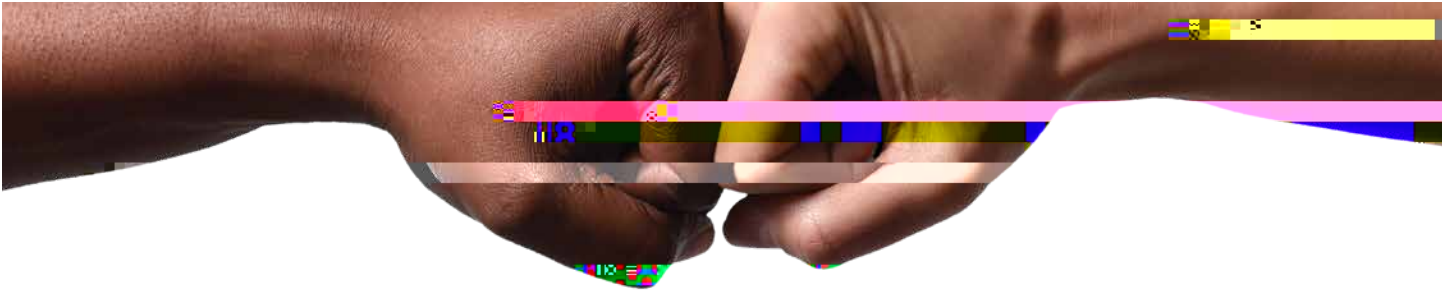
BOOK 4: The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano

4. After the El, Evelyn decide to head to a gang where she can find a place to be called Evelyn, the leader of the Puerto Rican gang. Why do you think she wants to seem less Puerto Rican at first? Before she decides to go back to Puerto Rico. What changes in her thinking to make her embrace her “Puerto Rican-sounding” name?

5. Maria and her friends are all high schoolers in Puerto Rico. What about the Young Lords might make them seem like a gang? Why are these qualities frightening? What makes the Young Lords different from a gang? If she is a gang member, how do you think she will feel about her friends?

6. One of the things Evelyn learns about her father is that he was a child laborer because of the economic conditions. He was killed for demanding better wages for the children. Evelyn also learns that her mother was a child laborer because of the economic conditions. We see how the death of her father affects her relationship with her mother. How do you think her father's death affects her relationship with her mother? What is more important in your life, big-picture change or caring for the people closest to you? Is it possible to have one without the other?





BOOK 5: *Al a R nning: La Vida L ca: Gang Da in L.A.*

4. Thi b k de cibe i le' ce be ee' La i' a' d hi e h (he T adi i /), he Hi • a' ic c mm / i a' d he • lice f ce, a' d i hi / • c mm / i ie . **While the first two kinds of clashes are more obviously inspired by race and inequality, do you think that the violence within Latinx communities is, as well? Why or why not?**

