

Double-Entry Response Worksheet for *Ciao America!* readings.

In column 1, please write three direct quotations from the Severgnini chapter with regard to his observations of American culture that you find most interesting, surprising, discussion-worthy, etc. In column 2, describe briefly what each observation reveals about American culture. In column 3, describe what, in turn, Beppe's commentary on American culture might reveal about Italian culture.

Quotation / Observation	American Cultural Meaning	Italian Cultural Meaning
<p>1) "America's Problem - And Italy's revenge - Is sometimes the system gets too sophisticated and becomes ridiculous." (46)</p>	<p>Americans are very focused on their systematic lives and try to cram everything in to one day for maximum efficiency. This, however causes overcomplication which leads to nothing getting done.</p>	<p>Italians are much more relaxed and do not fret about overcomplicating things. They enjoy a life of leisure rather than forcing efficiency into their lives.</p>
<p>2) "How many people actually bought an airline ticket by computer instead of phoning their travel agent?" (50)</p>	<p>Americans are disconnected from each other due to technology. They have made the conscious decision to exchange human interaction for the sake of efficiency.</p>	<p>Italians much rather the interactions with people over computer work. Their communities are much more connected rather than living in an individualistic society, such as the United States.</p>
<p>3) "When Americans take a serious interest in soccer and many are doing so with a determined courtesy that honors their nation - they demand logical answers" (54)</p>	<p>Americans are too focused on statistics and creating the perfect team in fantasy leagues. This is evident through fantasy football and March Madness. Americans overcomplicate everything.</p>	<p>Italians are far more accepting of their favorite teams, rather than their favorite players. They accept that some players are not as good as others yet will still cheer their whole team on, instead of caring about player-to-player stats.</p>