

Lesson 5

READ THIS STORY #1, Advanced

Armchair Travelers

Americans are fortunate to have the freedom to travel to many parts of the world. As we become more aware of different cultures, we become more understanding of other people. We also learn to appreciate our own blessings.

Thanks to our computers, we are now able to communicate with relatives or acquaintances in foreign countries. The world seems to be growing smaller.

Also, there are organizations that sponsor people-to-people exchange programs. It is hoped that as human beings get to know each other on a one-to-one basis, preconceptions will change, and fears and prejudices will disappear. If we realized how similar people are throughout the world, the threat of war could be reduced.

“Through Each Other’s Eyes” is a unique program, and the first of its kind in the United States. It promotes international cultural and educational understanding through photography. Sister cities taking part in this program exchange two professional photographers who visit and photograph each other city’s people and culture.

When the visiting photographer’s photos are displayed for public viewing, it is quite enlightening to discover what subjects were chosen to depict our unique behavior patterns, our institutions, and our beliefs.