

WEST SIDE STORY — "AMERICA"

Sequence 1: The American Anglophone World — 1ère STL

 **Context:** *West Side Story* tells the story of Puerto Rican migrants in New York in the 1950s.

STEP 1: FIRST VIEWING — WHAT DO YOU SEE?

1. Tick (✓) the elements you see in the video:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ☐ A group of men | ☐ People dancing | ☐ A group of women |
| ☐ A confrontation / debate | ☐ Puerto Rican characters | ☐ A street / urban setting |

2. Choose the general mood of the scene:

The scene is: [joyful | tense | competitive]

STEP 2: SECOND VIEWING — MEN VS. WOMEN

3. Complete the table with the missing keywords:

Wordbox: Discrimination & racism • Freedom & opportunities • High prices / Poverty

Themes	WOMEN (Positive vision)	MEN (Negative vision)
Life in the USA	• Modern style, houses, cars • _____	
Money & Society		• _____ • _____

STEP 3: SYNTHESIS — THE AMERICAN DREAM

4. For you, does the scene present the American Dream as:

- ☐ **A reality** (America gives chances to everyone)
- ☐ **An illusion** (life is hard and unfair for migrants)
- ☐ **A mixture of both** (positive for women, hard for men)

5. Complete the conclusion:

"In this song, women love America because of

.....

but men criticize America because of"