“Democratic Vistas” Portfolio

1.Who is Walt Whitman? What is his greatest contribution to American literature?

2. What is the American historical context that made Walt Whitman write this essay?

3. What does Whitman complain about the Americans?

4. What does he suggest as a remedy for his complaints?

5. Discuss whether Whitman adopts an optimistic or a pessimistic attitude in his essay.

6. Can we see traces of Whitman the poet in this essay?