

Winning Team
Grant

[music playing in the background]

My name is Grant, and I live in the United States of America. My country is made up of diverse cultures that have come together from all parts of the world.

Our diversity is what makes us unique. People from nearly every country in the world come here to hang their hat. We are one gigantic melting pot of culture.

As immigrants pass through U.S. Customs at Ellis Island, it brought not just their suitcases, but their music, art, food, rituals and games.

Some of those games have evolved into the sports we all know and love today. Soccer is a universal sport loved by millions of people around the world.

Early versions of the game can be traced back to Asia in 1000 B.C. The sport is a culture icon in European and Spanish cultures. Millions of people here in the U.S.A. love this sport, too.

Basketball, baseball and American football are all said to have been invented in my country, *but* have origins from other parts of the world.

American football can trace its origins back to the English game of rugby. In the mid-1800s it was formalized in the United States to become the game as we know it today. Football is one of the few sports that has remained uniquely American.

Baseball is said to be a combination of various stick and ball sports from around the world. The game as we know it today was invented in the United States in the mid-1800s.

Basketball was invented in 1891 in the state of Massachusetts by a Canadian named Jay Naismith. The present-day National Basketball Association has players from all around the world.

Teamwork and unity are important parts of athletics. Success is easier to obtain when a team works together to achieve a common goal. These strategies can be applied to our daily lives as we live and work together to accept one another's cultures and to celebrate our differences.

Sports are one of the many themes that make my culture plus your culture a winning team.