

# Contents

Chapter One: Introduction: The Purpose of This Book ❁ 1

Chapter Two: The U.S. Educational System ❁ 3

The U.S. Educational System at a Glance (CHART) ❁ vi

- 2.1 Primary and Secondary Schools ❁ 3
- 2.2 The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) ❁ 5
- 2.3 Colleges and Universities ❁ 5
- 2.4 Financial Support in Higher Education ❁ 6
- 2.5 Standardized Tests ❁ 7
- 2.6 Academic Degrees ❁ 8
- 2.7 Teacher and Administrator Titles ❁ 10
- 2.8 Sports in Schools ❁ 12

Chapter Three: American Students and Classroom Culture ❁ 13

- 3.1 Student Development ❁ 13
- 3.2 Student Obligations ❁ 13
- 3.3 Diverse Academic Backgrounds ❁ 14
- 3.4 Privacy ❁ 16
- 3.5 Appropriate Topics for the Classroom ❁ 17
- 3.6 The Use of Names ❁ 18
- 3.7 Attendance ❁ 18
- 3.8 Eating, Drinking, Reading, Sleeping ❁ 19
- 3.9 Talking ❁ 20
- 3.10 Clothing ❁ 21
- 3.11 Dealing with Questions ❁ 21
- 3.12 Rejoinders and Interruptions ❁ 22
- 3.13 Friendships ❁ 23
- 3.14 Sexual Harassment ❁ 24
- 3.15 Tips for Working with Different Student Types ❁ 25

## Chapter Four: American Educational Practices ❁ 27

- 4.1 Teacher and Student Responsibilities ❁ 27
- 4.2 Teaching Practices ❁ 31
- 4.3 Writing on the Board and Using Technology ❁ 33
- 4.4 Repetition and Restating ❁ 34
- 4.5 Sharing Examples ❁ 35
- 4.6 Pauses ❁ 35
- 4.7 Praise, Encouragement, and Criticism ❁ 36
- 4.8 The First Day of Class ❁ 36
- 4.9 Teacher Control and Student Participation ❁ 38
- 4.10 Grades ❁ 40
- 4.11 Academic Honesty ❁ 42

## Chapter Five: Coping with Your Challenges ❁ 45

- 5.1 Common Complaints From Students ❁ 45
- 5.2 Becoming Acculturated to American Life ❁ 47
- 5.3 Understanding Social Formalities ❁ 48
- 5.4 Body Language ❁ 51
- 5.5 Culture and Hygiene ❁ 51
- 5.6 Requesting Behavior Changes ❁ 52
- 5.7 Your Duties ❁ 52
- 5.8 Approaching the Supervisor ❁ 55
- 5.9 Social Distance ❁ 56
- 5.10 Correction from the Supervisor ❁ 57
- 5.11 Conflicting Instructions ❁ 58
- 5.12 Making Suggestions to Your Boss ❁ 58
- 5.13 Teaching Persona and Goals ❁ 59
- 5.14 Specific Suggestions for Good Performance ❁ 60

## Bibliography ❁ 63

## Appendix 1: Teacher Self-Assessment ❁ 64

## Appendix 2: Visual, Verbal, and Kinesthetic Learning Approaches ❁ 66

## Glossary ❁ 67