DAY 1 PEOPLE LIKE US

BUD OR BORDEAUX? PREVIEWING QUESTIONS

What is the meaning of the introductory segment title, Bud or Bordeaux?

Is it true that our choices in life reveal our class?

Are those choices only about things?

Who decides what’s in good taste- or not?

What is meant by the term “status symbol”?

If you can afford to purchase an expensive item- say a pricey car or a boat- are you automatically elevated in class?

Which of your possessions have you acquired, consciously or unconsciously, to enhance your state? (designer label clothes or shoes, a car, piece of jewelry)

What items or physical characteristics do you think label the wearer or owner as “low-class”/ Why do you think so?

POSTVIEWING QUESTIONS

How do you feel about the segment in PEOPLE LIKE US that depicts “rednecks” engaging in watermelon-seed-spitting and mud-flopping?

Do you think that people of a higher class would criticize your taste? How or why?

Does it matter to you?

Do you agree or disagree with Joe Queenan’s perspective on the things that we acquire?
**THE TROUBLE WITH TOFU POSTVIEWING QUESTIONS**

What is at the heart of this conflict?

Which groups does the program indicate are in favor of the co-op, and which the supermarket?

What are their reasons for their choice? How would you vote on this issue?

What does bread symbolize in the story?

Why does this situation remind Oak LoGalbo of being laughed at in high school?

Who was laughing- and why?

Have you ever had a similar experience? In what situations? How did they feel?

What does Councilman Smith mean about being “invisible” in this culture? Have you ever felt “invisible” in a class context?

**HOW TO MARRY THE RICH POSTVIEWING QUESTIONS**

What is your impression of Ginie Syles? Vessa Rinehart?

What social class does each appear to belong to? Why do you think so?

What do you think of Sayles’ techniques for moving up the social ladder?

Why do you suppose Rinehart wants to change her social class? Is such a transformation possible?

Is it, as her mentor claims, basically a question of appearance and style and the distance you stand from people? Or is Paul Fussell correct?

What pressures and obstacles does an individual face when they move into a different social class?

Compare the term “upwardly mobile” with “social climber” –is there a difference? In what situation is each term usually applied?

Ginie Sayles charges $1,500 for her make-over service: is it worth the price? Do you think a man would hire Ginie Sayles to transform him? Why/why not?