

## Aufgabenstellung

Punkte

1. Describe Valerie Jarrett's views on immigration and her demands as presented in the official White House blog. (*Comprehension*) 16
2. Analyse how she tries to convince the reader of her views. Consider structure, communicative strategies and stylistic devices. (*Analysis*) 24
3. Choose **one** of the following tasks. 20
  - 3.1 Using your knowledge about the American Dream, discuss Jarrett's claim that "America's strength has always come from the rich diversity, and core decency" (ll. 47/48) of the American people. (*Evaluation: comment*)
  - 3.2 Imagine you have just immigrated to the USA and had to wait for your Green Card for a long time. Write a critical letter to Jarrett. (*Evaluation: re-creation of text*)

### Text:

#### **Valerie Jarrett: New Citizens and the American Dream**

*Valerie Jarrett is a Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama. Her text was first published in the official White House blog.*

Yesterday, I had the privilege of speaking at a naturalization ceremony for newly naturalized citizens of the United States of America.

There were over 700 representatives from 92 countries across 6 continents who became Americans. From the Philippines, to Germany, El Salvador, to Peru, to Australia, and every other corner of the globe, they embodied not just the face of the world, but the face of America.

Their presence is a testament to the promise of the American Dream. It's the dream that says no matter who you are, where you came from, what your last name is, what you believe, or who you love, if you come here, and work hard, if you believe in yourself, if you embrace the spirit of limitless possibilities, then in this great country, you can make it if you try.

All Americans have the same dream – receive a good education, have a job, the ability to afford a home, send their kids to college, health care so they don't have [to]

worry about going broke if they get sick, or are in an accident, and the ability to retire  
15 with a little money in their pocket.

Our newest Americans came here in pursuit of that dream. And in so many  
ways, they are already woven into the fabric of our great country. They've gone to  
school here, worked here, been active in our communities, served, and defended our  
country through active military service, and made our nation stronger, safer, and bet-  
20 ter.

When the newest Americans stood tall, and faced our American flag, and  
pledged allegiance to the country they now official[ly] call home, my eyes swelled  
with tears, knowing that they were accepting both the privilege, and responsibility of  
citizenship in our great country. And they reminded me of how precious our citizen-  
25 ship is – of how much it is worth, why we should never take it for granted, and why it  
is worth protecting.

Simply put, they belong here. And they remind us again of the importance of fix-  
ing our immigration system, so that aspiring Americans can take the pathway that  
they have taken, and become full-fledged citizens.

30 That's why President Obama has made immigration reform one of his top prior-  
ities this year. Last month, the Senate passed an historic piece of legislation in an  
overwhelming bipartisan vote. Now it's time for the House to take action.

Immigration reform is necessary because it speaks to our values as a country – a  
nation of laws, and a nation of immigrants. It's the right thing to do because our sys-  
35 tem is broken. And we also know that economic costs of inaction are simply too high  
to delay.

If the Senate bill were passed, our economy's GDP would grow nearly five and a  
half percent more over the next two decades, resulting in massive job creation.

We would see real wages will rise, federal deficits will fall by \$ 850 billion, and  
40 our debt will shrink as a share of the economy.

We would see a stronger housing recovery, thanks to stronger demand and high-  
er prices for homes in neighborhoods hardest hit by the recession.

We would see foreign-born students educated in American universities stay in  
our country, and create jobs. [...]

45 These are real impacts that would benefit everyone. And this is our best chance  
in a long time to finally get this done. We owe it to our heritage, to our country's fu-  
ture, and to the next generation, to fix our broken system, today. After all, America's  
strength has always come from the rich diversity, and core decency of our people.

(598 words)

Valerie Jarrett: *New Citizens and the American Dream*. In: *The White House Blog*, July 31, 2013.  
URL: [www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/07/31/new-citizens-and-american-dream](http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/07/31/new-citizens-and-american-dream) (Zugriff: 24.08.2015)

### Annotations

1. 31 *Last month, the Senate passed an historic piece of legislation: here:* reference to a vote in the Senate on an immigration reform bill
1. 32 *the House: here:* reference to the House of Representatives