This article helps us understand the social process of the roles that we take as part of society. In particular, Gracey explores the function of Kindergarten as teaching good citizenship. Consider the following questions as you read the article and write your response.

1. How would you answer the question at the end of Henslin’s introduction to this article, “How do you react to the idea that the essence of the educational institution is training into conformity?”

2. Describe stratification as manifested in the structure of a school.

3. How is the discussion of “drilling” the students as part of kindergarten similar or different from Lemert’s point about the importance of practicing sociology?

4. Often the children’s outbursts and other attempts to communicate are reprimanded or redirected by Edith. How can the effects of these interactions, between teacher and kindergarten student, affect class interaction in an adult class in college?

5. Edith has the students sing *America* and treat the flag carefully and with respect. What kind of message do these rituals send? Talk about the simplicity of patriotism that such a process indoctrinates.

6. Gracey discusses the social structure that Edith creates in order to teach students the role of the student. What are the pros and cons of disposing with such structure?