

Discussion-CNN MONEY: What is middle class, anyway?

Read the following article from CNN describing 5 ways that experts have determined to define middle class. Underline/circle anything that you think is important or surprises you. Answer the following questions on your own:

1. Why is the question of defining middle class in the United States a difficult one to answer?
2. Do you think income alone is an imperfect way to describe someone as middle class? Why or why not? (be specific)
3. Do you think wealth alone is a perfect way to describe someone as middle class? Why or why not? (be specific)
4. Do you think demographics (the study of human beings) as described by the article alone is a perfect way to describe someone as middle class? Why or why not? (be specific)
5. Do you think consumption alone is a perfect way to describe someone as middle class? Why or why not? (be specific)
6. President Obama's task force put together a list of aspirations that they believe is common to the middle class. Would you make any changes to this list given your own aspirations?

