**Race: The Power of Illusion (Episode 1)**

1. **Explain how “race” does not determine athletic ability.**

Over the years, people have wrongly attributed external differences among people, mostly based on genetics, to their internal differences such as athletic ability, dividing people into races. However, race is not rooted in genetics because genetic scientists have not found any genetic characteristics that are in everybody belonging to a certain race. People attribute athletic ability to physical characteristics of people, such as chest capacity and the strengths of legs, but physical differences do not proof that races actually exist. Indeed, not everybody belonging to a particular race has athletic ability because there lacks one single physical feature that all athletic champions of any particular race have in common. For instance, not every Negro has athletic ability. If race determines athletic ability, everybody in a particular race would have athletic ability.

1. **Explain the experiment conducted by students in the movie. Most important, what were the results and what do the results demonstrate about human biological variations?**

The experiment aimed to investigate the correlation between differences in races and biological variations. In other words, the experiment intended to investigate whether people believed to be of the same race have genetic similarities. Students compared the colors of their skin and their DNA that was retrieved from their blood and cells. Before the experiment, students believed that they had genetic similarities with other students whom they shared racial ancestry or physical features, such as skin color. However, the results revealed that students that did not look alike could have genetic similarities while those that looked alike could have genetic differences. Fundamentally, the results of the experiment demonstrated that race is not rooted in genetic variations because some students with the same physical characteristics did not exhibit genetic similarities.

1. **Provide two specific ways that this documentary makes you rethink some of your assumptions about the cultural categories of “race” and actual biological variation of humans?**

One way that the documentary makes me rethink some of my assumptions about cultural categories of race and actual biological variation of humans is the inclusion of an experiment to investigate the correlation between physical similarities and genetic similarities. The experiment makes me rethink about my assumptions that people from different races, mostly recognized by their differences in physical similarities, can have genetic similarities while people from a particular race can have genetic variations. Secondly, the documentary highlights the misconception about the attribution of external differences to complex internal differences, such as intelligence, athletic ability, and musical aptitude. By doing this, I rethink my assumptions that race determines intelligence, athletic ability, and musical aptitude among other complex internal characteristics.