

Name: _____

I believe in The Beatles. Although they don't exist anymore, their music is very much alive, even to a 12-year-old like me. As old as the songs are, you can learn a lot about yourself from the lyrics. Listening to them with others and singing along has been important to me and to my family.

America is built on the idea of freedom, and there is no exception for Muslim women. **I believe in the freedom of religion and speech. But mostly, I believe it's OK to be different, and to stand up for who and what you are. So I believe in wearing the *hijab*.**

I have always believed in myself, even as a young child growing up in Louisville, Ky. My parents instilled a sense of pride and confidence in me, and taught me and my brother that we could be the best at anything. I must have believed them, because I remember being the neighborhood marble champion and challenging my neighborhood buddies to see who could jump the tallest hedges or run a foot race the length of the block. Of course I knew when I made the challenge that I would win. I never even thought of losing.

I used to believe in the American dream that meant a job, a mortgage, cable, credit, warranties, success.

The American dream I believe in now is a shared one. It's not so much about what I can get for myself; it's about how we can all get by together.

I believe globalization is forcing our brains to evolve.

I don't think I'll ever quit working. I'm retired from the Army, but I'm still working to help people be prepared for disaster. And I may get to do a little farming someday, too. I'm not going to stop. **I believe in my father's words. I believe in the blessing of work.**